

WELCOME BACK TO THE
NEW YEAR'S COUNTDOWN!
I'M YOUR HOST, THE CREEPY
CGI RECREATION OF
DICK CLARK!

OKAY HOLD ON
A SECOND

WHAT'S WRONG?

SORRY, BUT YOU'RE JUST
TOO CREEPY; WE'VE BEEN
HEMMORAGING VIEWERS

EVERYONE PLEASE
WELCOME YOUR NEW HOST,
THE ROBOT CLONE
OF DICK CLARK!

GREETINGS, I AM
DICK CLARKTRON

HOW IS HE LESS
CREEPY THAN ME?!

FOR ONE I DON'T LOOK
LIKE A FLAPPING
MEAT-MUPPET

AT LEAST MY BRAIN'S
NOT VISIBLE IN A
CLEAR GLASS DOME!

KER-
FLOMP

Hold it right there
you impostors!

—GASP— THE EVIL GHOST
OF DICK CLARK! I THOUGHT
WE LAID YOU TO REST!

TASTE MY HOLY WATER
CANNON

Curses!

2





Housepets!

Let's Imagine!

PBS&J THEATER CO.
PRESENTS
AND THEN
THERE WERE
NONE

I'M CONFUSED, ARE
WE GOING TO HAVE, LIKE,
AN AUDIENCE?

NO, THAT
WOULD RUIN THE
SPONTANEITY OF IT!
WE JUST DO
WHATEVER

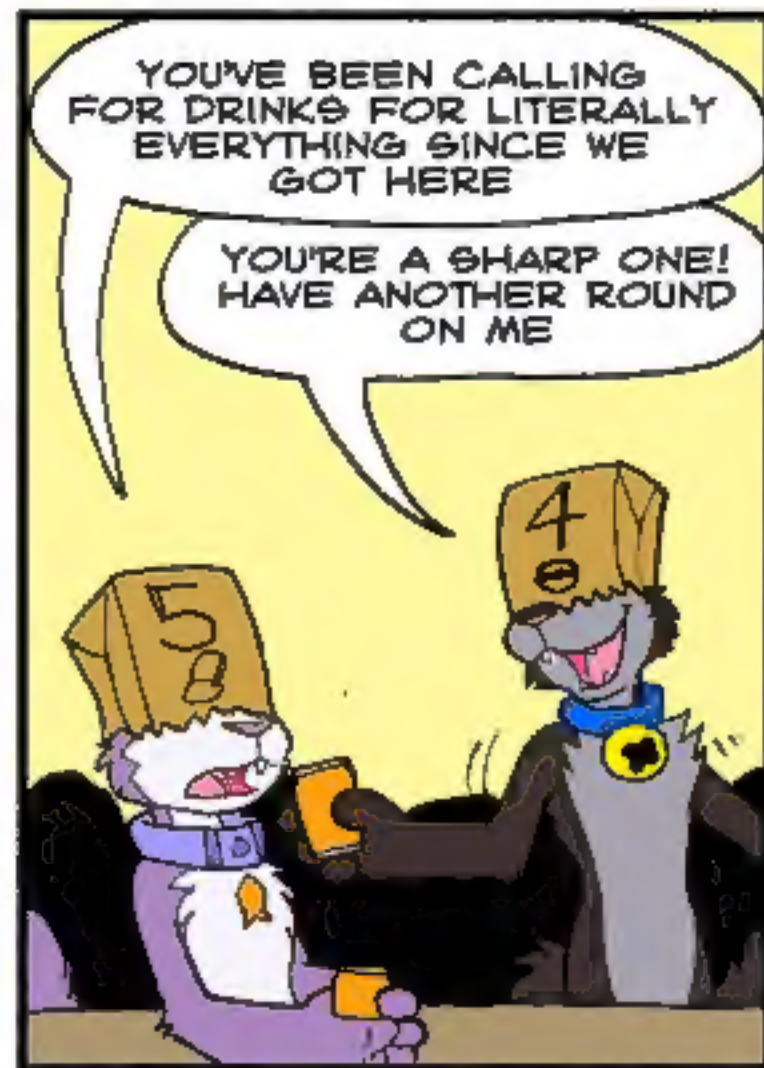
I HAVE A
CAMCORDER, WHAT
IF WE USED IT AND
EDITED IT LATER?

THAT'S EVEN
WORSE!

I'D HATE TO THINK
THERE'S AN **UNSEEN**
AUDIENCE SILENTLY
JUDGING OUR EVERY
DECISION!



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TEN LITTLE INDIAN BOYS
WENT OUT TO DINE
ONE CHOKED HIS LITTLE SELF
AND THEN THERE WERE NINE



NINE LITTLE INDIAN BOYS
SAT UP VERY LATE;
ONE OVERSLEPT HIMSELF
AND THEN THERE WERE EIGHT
EIGHT LITTLE INDIAN BOYS
TRAVELLING IN DEVON;
ONE SAID HE'D STAY THERE
AND THEN THERE WERE SEVEN

WHUZZAT?
WHO'S
UNRAVELING
THE DEVIL?



SEVEN LITTLE INDIAN BOYS
CHOPPING UP STICKS;
ONE CHOPPED HIMSELF IN HALF
AND THEN THERE WERE SIX
SIX LITTLE INDIAN BOYS
PLAYING WITH A HIVE;
A BUMBLEBEE STUNG ONE
AND THEN THERE WERE FIVE

IN MY OPINION,
NURSERY RHYMES
SHOULD STAY IN
THE NURSERY!



FIVE LITTLE INDIAN BOYS
GOING IN FOR LAW;
ONE GOT IN CHANCERY
AND THEN THERE WERE FOUR
FOUR LITTLE INDIAN BOYS
GOING OUT TO SEA;
A RED HERRING SWALLOWED ONE
AND THEN THERE WERE THREE

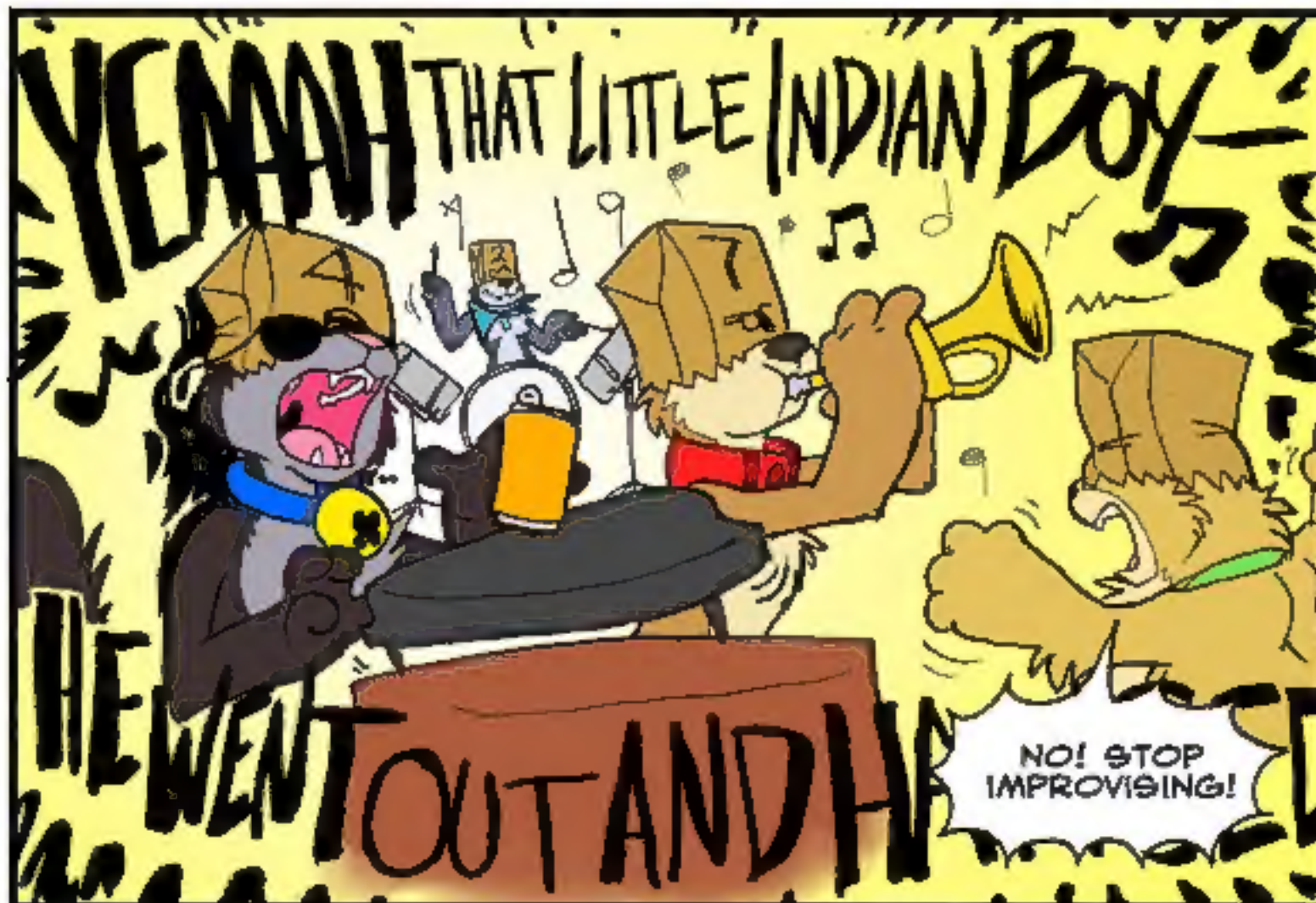


THREE LITTLE INDIAN BOYS
WALKING IN THE ZOO;
A BIG BEAR HUGGED ONE
AND THEN THERE WERE TWO
TWO LITTLE INDIAN BOYS
PLAYING IN THE SUN;
ONE GOT ALL FRIZZLED UP
AND THEN THERE WAS ONE



ONE LITTLE INDIAN BOY
LEFT ALL ALONE;
HE WENT OUT AND
HANGED HIMSELF
AND THEN THERE WERE NONE!

UGH FINALLY!
THAT TOOK TOO
LONG--



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!
THIS IS YOUR HOST MR. OWEN
SPEAKING. YOU ARE CHARGED
WITH THE FOLLOWING CRIMES



GENERAL SIR JOHN
MACARTHUR, THAT YOU
DELIBERATELY ORDERED
YOUR WIFE'S EX-LOVER
ARTHUR RICHMOND TO HIS
DEATH

EMILY BRENT, THAT YOU DID
CAUSE THE DEATH OF YOUR
SERVING WOMAN BEATRICE
TAYLOR

WHAT?



DR. EDWARD G. ARMSTRONG,
THROUGH UNCONTROLLED
DRUNKENNESS YOU DID KILL
MRS. MARY CLEESE

ANTHONY MARSTON, THAT YOU
ARE GUILTY OF THE MURDER
OF FRED AND LUCY MARLOWE



VERA CLAYTHORNE, THAT YOU
ARE GUILTY OF THE MURDER
OF CYRIL HAMILTON

JUSTICE LAWRENCE WARGRAVE,
THAT YOUR ARE RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE DEATH BY HANGING
OF ONE EDWARD SEATON



PHILIP LOMBARD, THAT YOU
ARE GUILTY OF THE DEATH
OF 21 MEN, MEMBERS OF AN
EAST AFRICAN TRIBE

WILLIAM BLORE, THAT BY
PERJURING YOUR TESTIMONY
YOU DID BRING ABOUT THE
DEATH OF JAMES LANDOR



THOMAS AND ETHEL ROGERS

PLEASE TURN OVER TO SIDE B



... THAT YOU BROUGHT
ABOUT THE DEATH OF YOUR
INVALID EMPLOYER
MRS. JENNIFER BRADY



"SWAN SONG"
WHO PUT THIS ON THE
GRAMOPHONE?

I DID SUH
I WAS . . . IT WAS ON
MR. OWEN'S ORDERS,
SUH

JINKIES!

LISTEN MY FRIENDS,
THE ACCUSATION IS TRUE!
A YEAR AGO--TWO PEOPLE
IN THE ROAD . . . AND . . .
MY BEAUTIFUL CAR
WAS DENTED!

BUT YOU CAN'T LIVE
WITH REGRETS, **NOT ONE!**

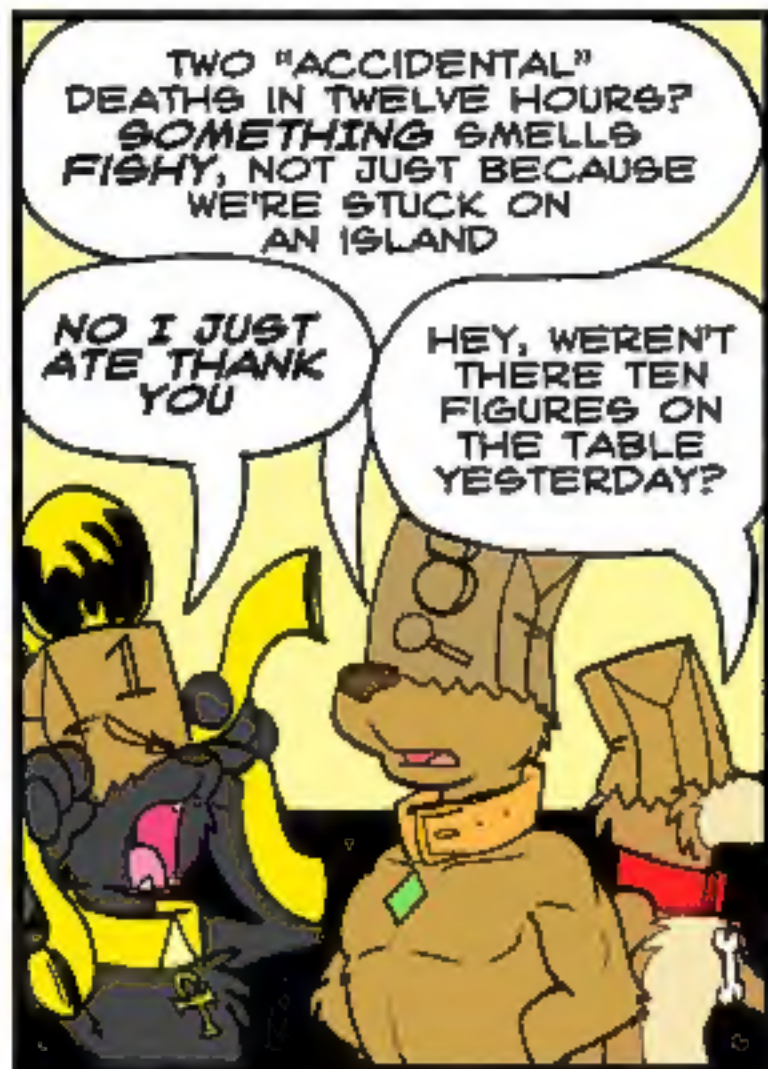
LIVE FAST!
DIE YOUNG!
LEAVE A PICKLED
CORPSE!

HE'S DEAD,
JIM

HEAVEN'S
CHOIR HAS
GAINED A
BEAUTIFUL
ANGEL



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IT IS POSSIBLE MR. OWEN
IS HIDING SOMEWHERE
ON THIS ISLAND, RIGHT?

RIGHT!

SO WHAT ALL US CHARACTERS
WITH **MASCULINE AGENCY** NEED
TO DO IS FLUSH HIM OUT!
TURN THIS ISLAND UPSIDE DOWN!

AND THEY SET OUT
ON A NOBLE QUEST
TO SEARCH EVERY
CREVICE OF
INDIAN
ISLAND
...

AAAAAND BACK
WHERE WE STARTED

WELL THAT'S TWO MINUTES
OF MY LIFE I'M NEVER
GOING TO GET BACK

HEY GUYS, I HAVE
MORE GOOD NEWS
AND BAD NEWS

A POISONED GLASS COULD
MEAN SUICIDE

AN OVERDOSE OF SEDATIVE
MIGHT HAVE BEEN
AN ACCIDENT

BUT THIS KNIFE,
THE REMOVAL OF WHICH
FROM THE GENERAL'S BACK
WE CUT FOR TIME, CAN ONLY
MEAN ONE THING--**MURDER!**



EVIDENTLY MR. OWEN
BELIEVES US GUILTY OF
CERTAIN CRIMES WHICH
THE LAW CANNOT TOUCH

THAT IS WHY HE HAS
ENTICED US TO THIS
ISLAND!



THERE'S NO ONE ON
THIS ISLAND, I TELL YOU!

OH, MR. OWEN
IS HERE ALRIGHT--
SEE, HE COULD HAVE
ONLY COME TO THIS
ISLAND ONE WAY . . .
WHICH MEANS . . .
MR. OWEN IS
ONE OF US!



DO YOU HAVE TO KEEP
DOING THAT? WE'RE HAVING
A DRAMATIC MOMENT

OH **EXCUSE ME MADAM**
BUT **MY WIFE** WAS THE ONE
WHO HANDLED THE KITCHEN



... AND ONE VOTE FOR LOMBARD.
THAT MEANS THE WINNER WITH TWO
VOTES IS YOU, MR. ROGERS

I'M BEING ACCUSED?!

IT ISN'T EXACTLY A MAJORITY,
BUT I'D ALSO POINT OUT THAT
DEMOCRACY IS NEVER,
EVER WRONG

WHY DID WE EVEN HAVE
A VOTE IN THE FIRST PLACE?!

IT'S NOTHING **PERSONAL**,
IT'S JUST THAT THE CONCEPT
OF A MAD BUTLER PREYS
ON THE EMBEDDED FEARS
OF THE UPPER CLASS

SO IT'S **MORE** LIKE, WE
TRUST YOU **LESS** BECAUSE
YOU'RE THE HELP

I DIDN'T VOTE FOR YOU,
BUT NOW THAT THE PEOPLE HAVE
SPOKEN I'M GOING TO TACITLY SIDE
WITH THEM SO I CAN COMFORT
MYSELF WITH A FALSE SENSE
OF SECURITY

YOU GUYS
SUCK!

I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT OUR COMPLETELY UNOFFICIAL VOTE--NOT TO ACCUSE YOU OF ANYTHING MIND YOU!--MEANS YOU NEED TO SLEEP IN THE WOODSHED TONIGHT

ANYTHING TO GET AWAY FROM YOU CLODS!

NOW WE'LL LOCK THE DOORS FROM THE INSIDE SO THE LUNATIC CAN'T SNEAK IN AND MURDER US ALL IN OUR SLEEP!

BUT WHAT IF ONE OF US IS THE MURDERER?

THAT'S SIMPLE! SINCE IT'S **SUCH AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT** TO THE MURDERER'S PLAN THAT HE REMOVE AN INDIAN FIGURINE FROM THE DINING ROOM TABLE, WE LOCK THE DINING ROOM FROM BOTH SIDES, THEN GIVE THE KEY TO MR. ROGERS WITHOUT TELLING HIM WHAT IT'S FOR! **IT'S FOOLPROOF!**

OR, I SUPPOSE, WE COULD HAVE **ACTUALLY** CONSIDERED HE MIGHT NOT BE THE MURDERER

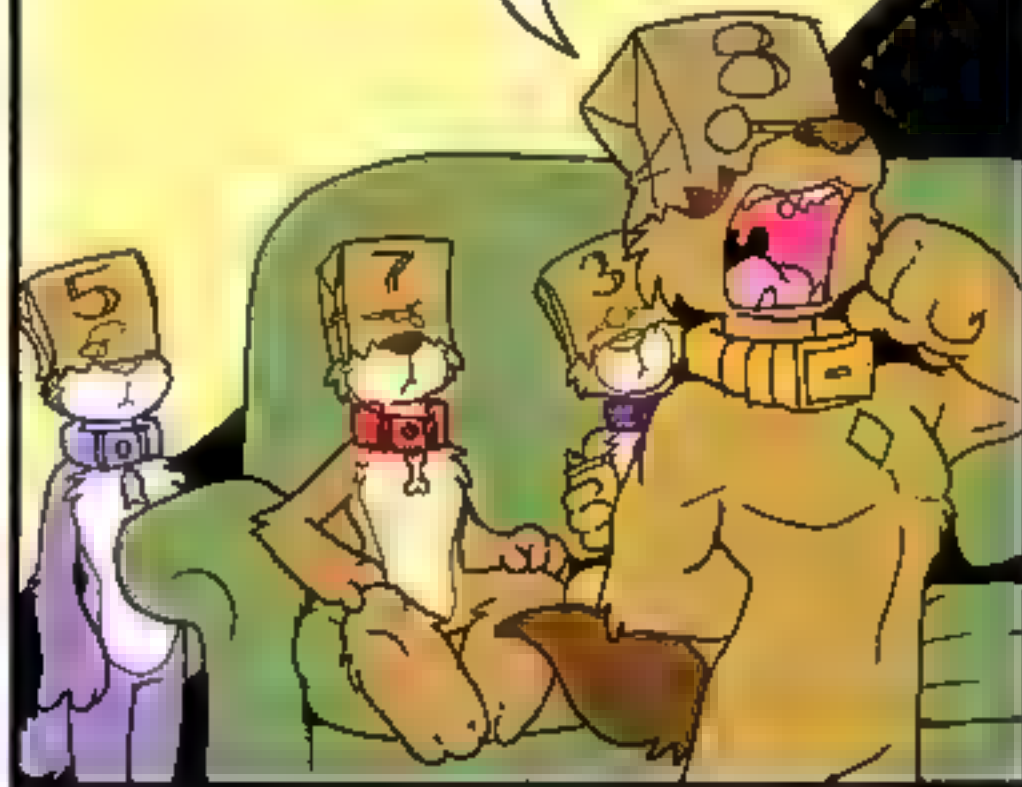
THE NEXT MORNING

PRESERVES

VERY STUPID TO KILL THE ONLY SERVANT
IN THE HOUSE. NOW WE DON'T EVEN
KNOW WHERE TO FIND THE MARMALADE.
OH WELL, LIKE I ALWAYS SAY, IT'S NOT
THE SERVANT, IT'S THAT THE SERVANT'S
AS **DISPOSABLE AS TOILET PAPER**.
IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME IF HE REALLY
DID OFF HIS EMPLOYER! ALL THIS
MURDERING IS SO **LOWER CLASS**.
DOESN'T EVERYONE KNOW THAT POOR
PEOPLE COMMIT ONE HUNDRED
PERCENT OF ALL CRIME? WELL, ALL
REAL CRIME

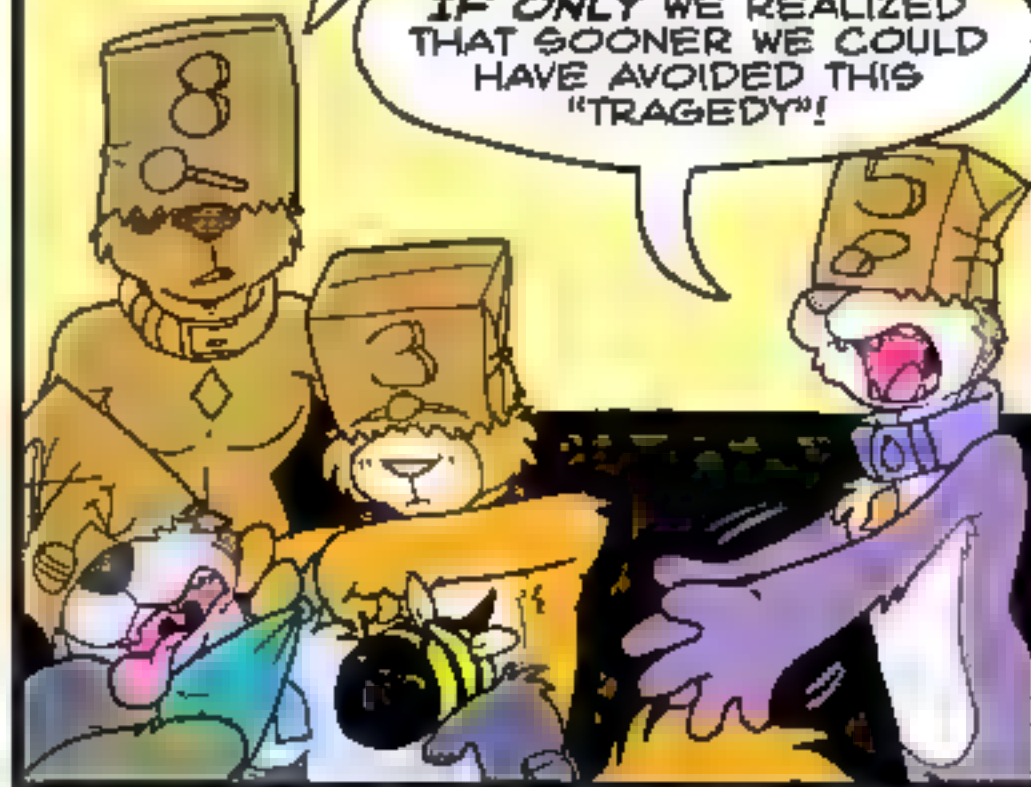


I WONDER IF SHE
IS THE MURDERER



WELL, THAT SUPPORTS MY
"THE PERSON WE SUSPECT MOST
IS NEXT TO DIE" THEORY

IF ONLY WE REALIZED
THAT SOONER WE COULD
HAVE AVOIDED THIS
"TRAGEDY"!



THAT'S IT, ALL OF THE LETHAL
INSTRUMENTS IN THE HOUSE
NEED TO BE LOCKED AWAY

SYRINGES, PLANO WIRE,
PARTICULARLY LARGE ROCKS--
ANYONE ELSE BRING ANY
POTENTIAL WEAPONS?

FRANKLY I'M SURPRISED
NONE OF THE REST OF YOU
CAME PREPARED

WAIT

WAIT DO YOU MEAN
TO SAY YOU BROUGHT
A GUN?! WHY DIDN'T
YOU TELL US?

BECAUSE I'M NOT
STUPID ENOUGH TO
VOLUNTEER THAT
INFORMATION?

IT'S NOT
HERE

HUH, THAT'S
WEIRD

I MEAN, HA HA! I MUST
HAVE FORGOTTEN TO PACK
MY GUN! I DON'T EVEN OWN
A GUN! WHAT'S A GUN?
**GUNS DON'T EXIST, STOP
ALL THIS NONSENSE
ABOUT GUNS**

~KSHZZT~

DID YOU OR ANYONE CHECK
THE GENERATOR RECENTLY?

WHAT
DO YOU EXPECT
ME TO DO? I'M A
DOCTOR, NOT AN
ELECTRICIAN!

KZORP

PEOOO

PLEASE DONT
KILL ME

I WAS JUST
ABOUT TO SAY
THE SAME THING!

IF YOU'RE MR. OWEN
... I WOULDN'T EVEN
COMPLAIN! THOSE GUYS
ARE ALL LOSERS!

HEY, IF YOU WANT
TO KILL EVERYONE ELSE
... WE CAN BE MURDER
PALS! YOU KNOW, IF
YOU DONT KILL ME

I TRUST YOU,
DONT YOU TRUST
ME?

YES OF
COURSE I
DO!

THAT'S
GRE—

DONT COME
ANY CLOSER

I WONT MOVE AN INCH

NEITHER WILL I,
UNTIL THE LIGHT
COMES ON

OH,
DO YOU THINK
IT WILL?

... YES?

THIS IS OBVIOUSLY A TRICK
BY MR. OWEN TO KEEP US IN
FEAR OF EACH OTHER ...
BUT DO YOU SEE HIS
MISTAKE? NOW TWO PEOPLE
ARE OBVIOUSLY CLEARED ...
YOU AND ME!

THAT'S RIGHT! WE DONT
HAVE TO LIVE IN FEAR
OF EACH OTHER!

... DOES THIS MEAN
WE'RE HAVING A "MOMENT"?

I SURE HOPE SO,
OUR READERSHIP
DROPPED SHARPLY
ONCE THE ROMANTIC
TENSION WAS PUT ON
HOLD

When get-well cards aren't enough!

SPOT (Superdog)

IS

SICK!

I didn't know you could GET sick!

Not ordinarily... but this is a foul disease from planet Orphan!

It's exactly like your earth flu, except a thousand times worse and a thousand times more awesome!



How's that?

Orphan flu causes hallucinations... that come to life!



Gasp! My archnemesis The Cyborg!



THAT'S RIGHT SPOT (superdog) I heard you were orphan-sick and came to give my condolences...



Now — DON'T THINK ABOUT ME HAVING AN INVINCIBLE ROBO-HORNET ARMY!

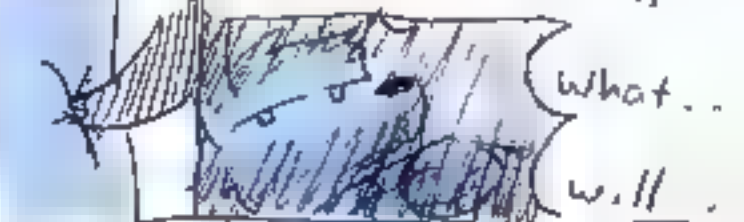


No! Must Fight — too... weak...!



JAB!

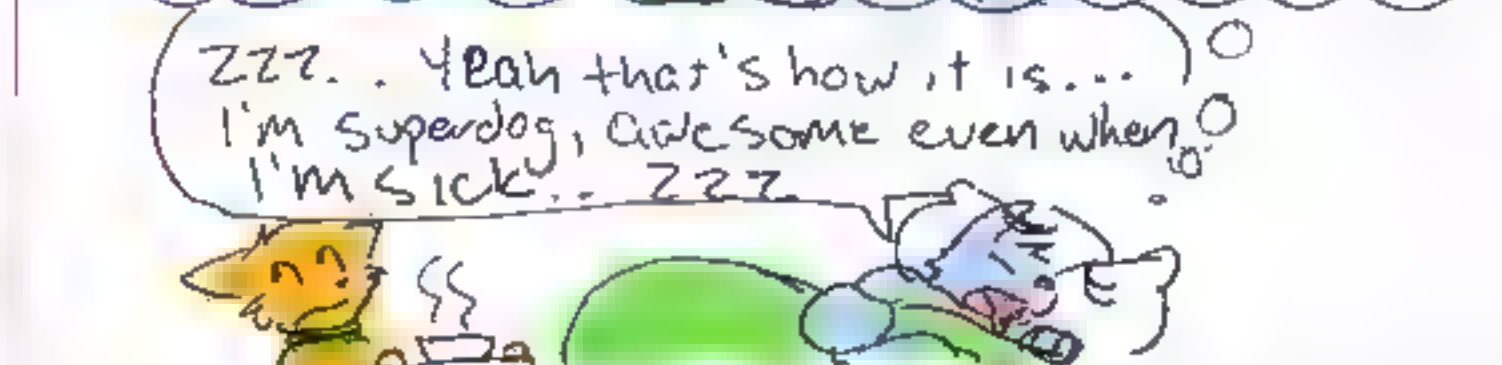
Robo poison! it ALSO causes hallucinations! What will —



BOOM! (Wooooo)



Zzz... Yeah that's how it is... I'm Superdog, awesome even when I'm sick... Zzz



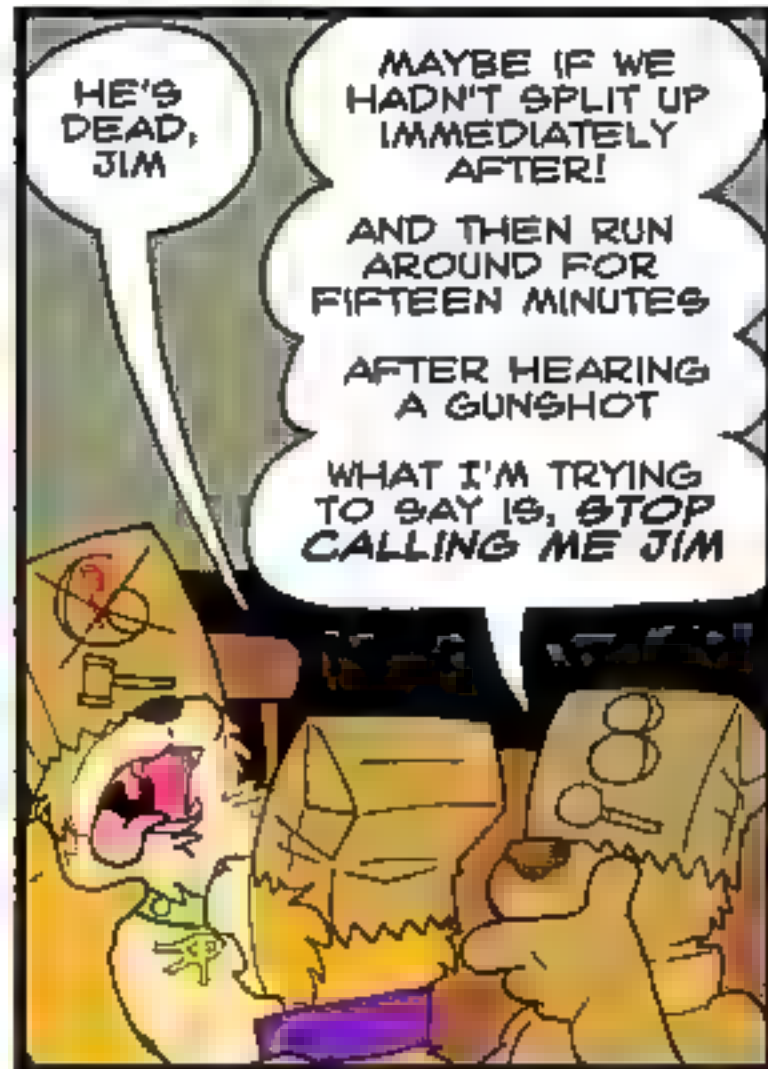
Next time... SALUTING THE COMMIE FLAG?!

Housepets!





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**LOVE
SUCKS**

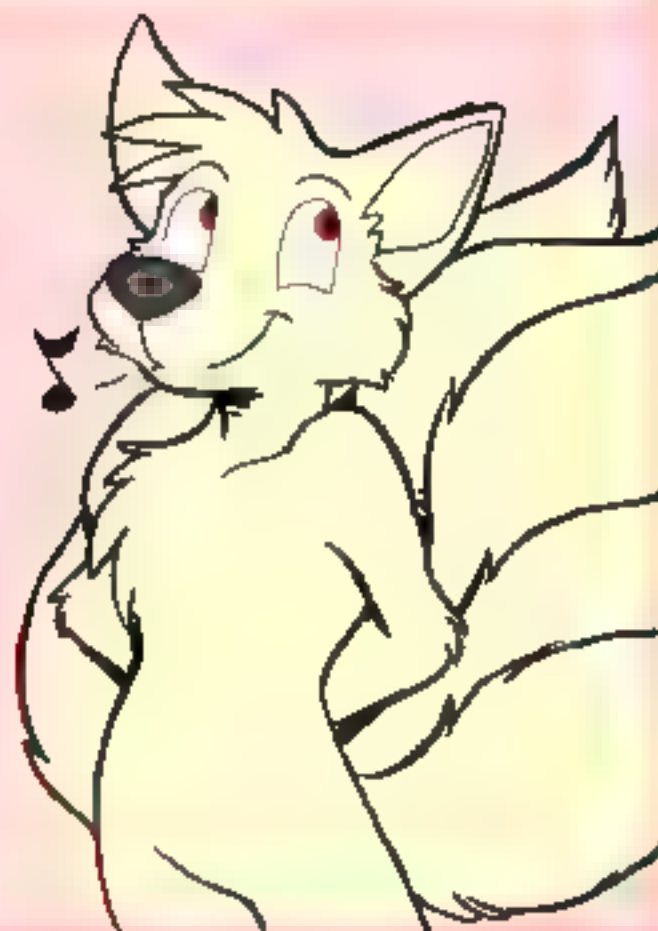
LET'S TRY IT
ANYWAY



**Some small
part of me
wants to be
your Valentine,
and I can't
get it to
shut up**

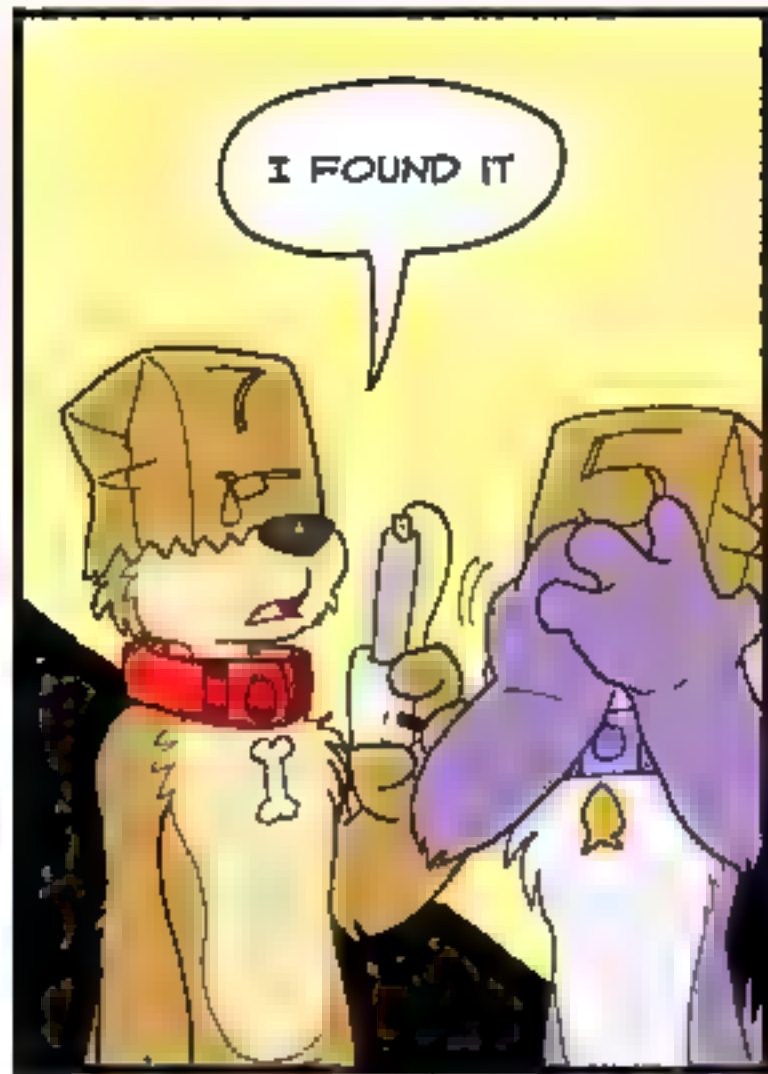
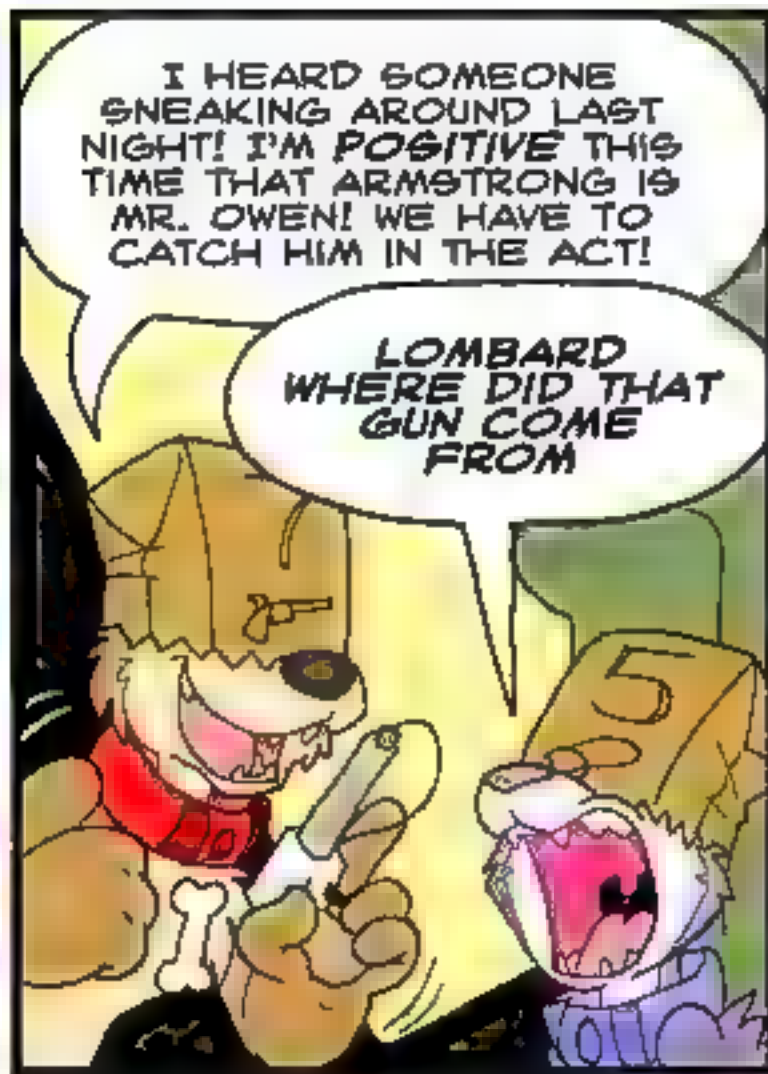


What?



**WITH ALL
SINCERE GRACE
AND HUMILITY,
I WILL ALLOW
YOU THE
HONOR OF
BEING MY
VALENTINE**





MR. ARMSTRONG
IS NOT HERE!

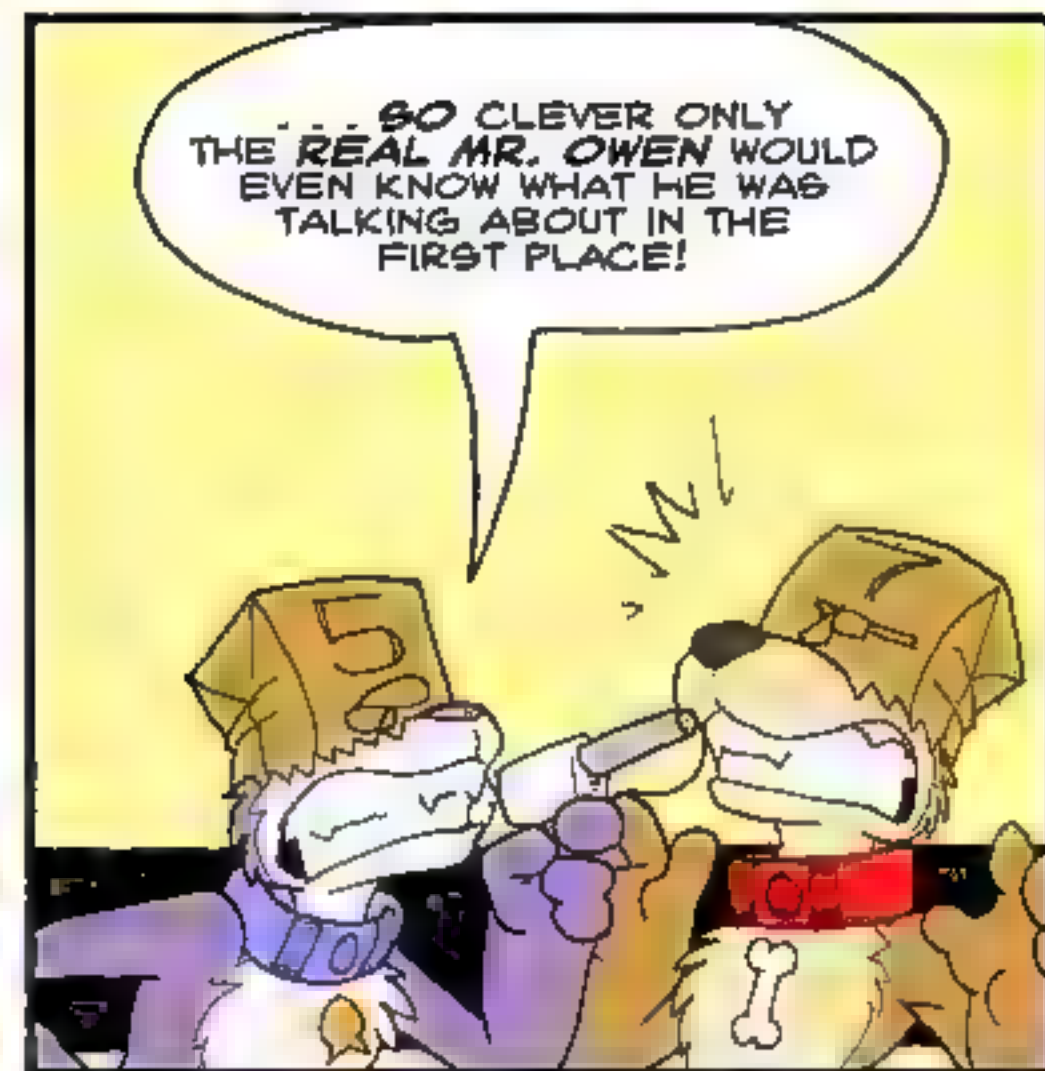
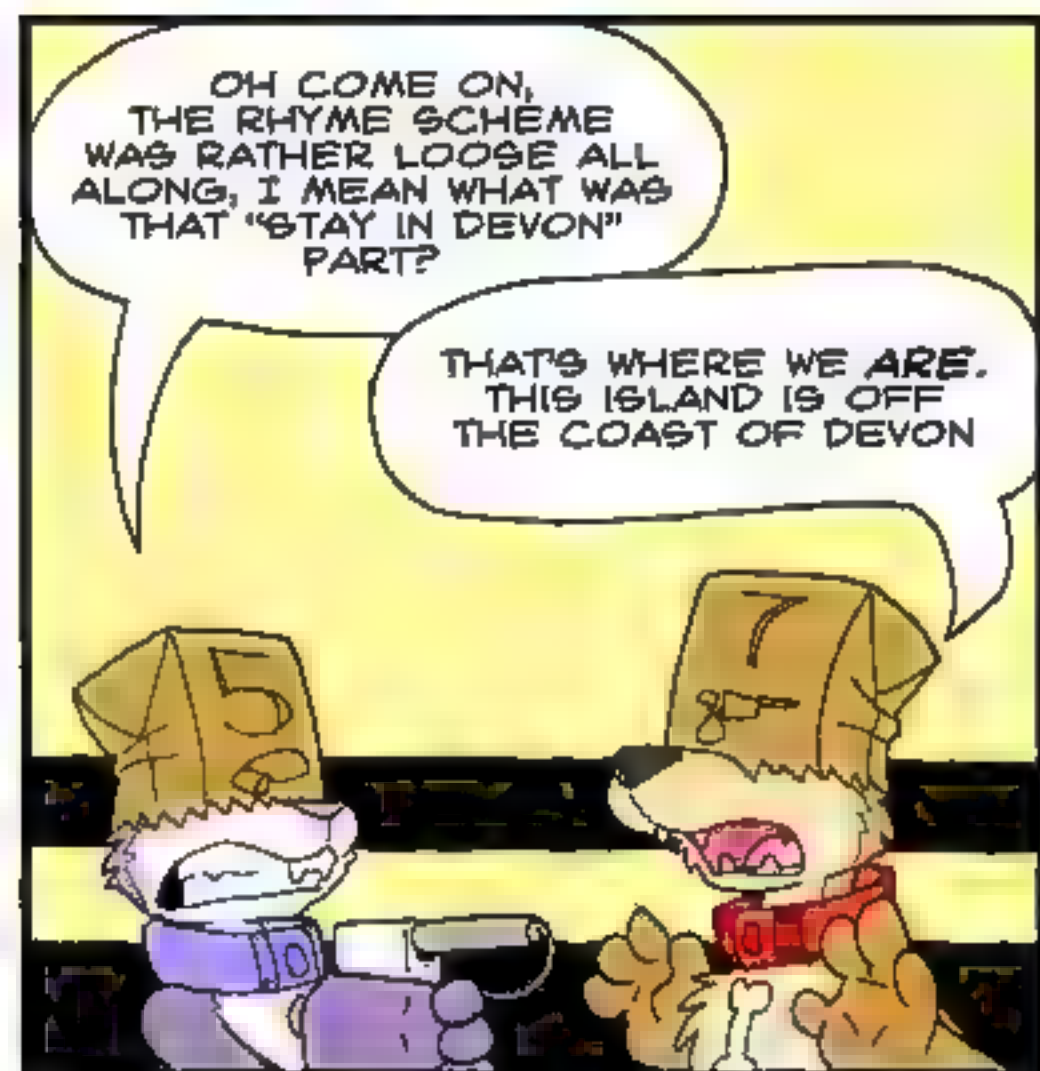
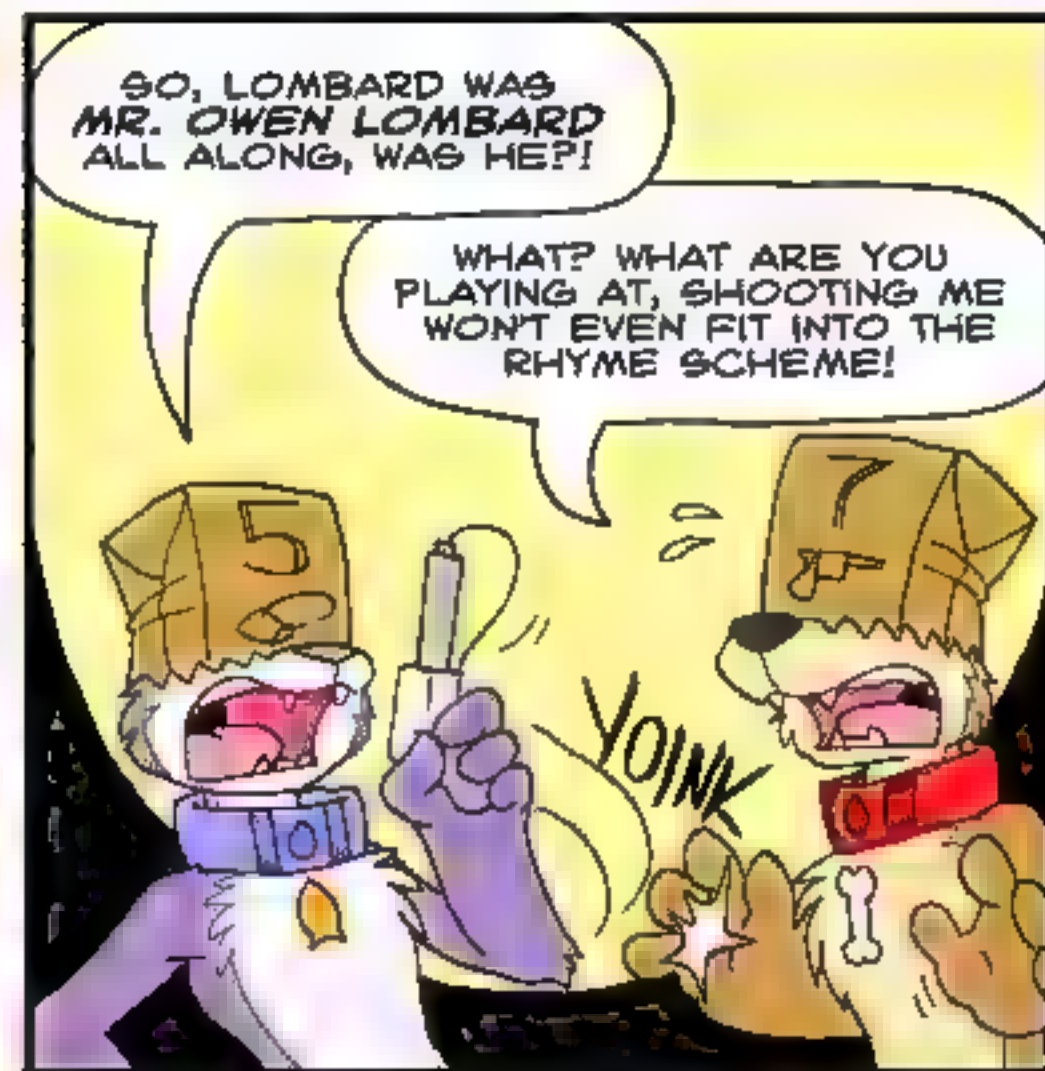
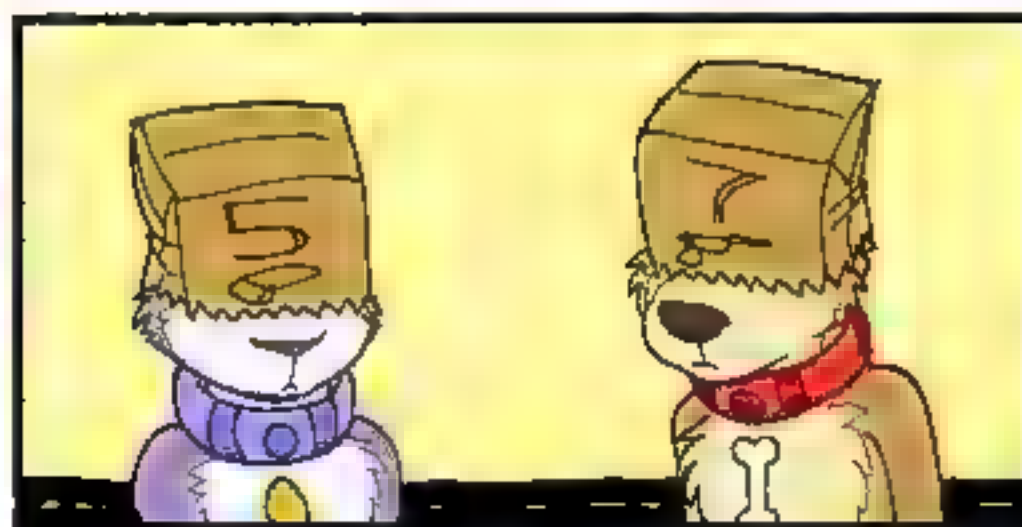
THAT PROVES
THAT HE DID IT!

WAIT, HOW
DOES---

NO TIME TO
EXPLAIN! HE MUST
BE THE FIGURE
I SAW NEAR THE
BEACH!

~~2GASP2~~
BUT IF THAT'S ...
THEN WHY WOULD ...
OF COURSE! IT ALL
MAKES SENSE!

EXCEPT FOR
THE THIRD-TO-LAST DEATH,
HOW IS SOMEONE SUPPOSED
TO DIE BY BEAR?

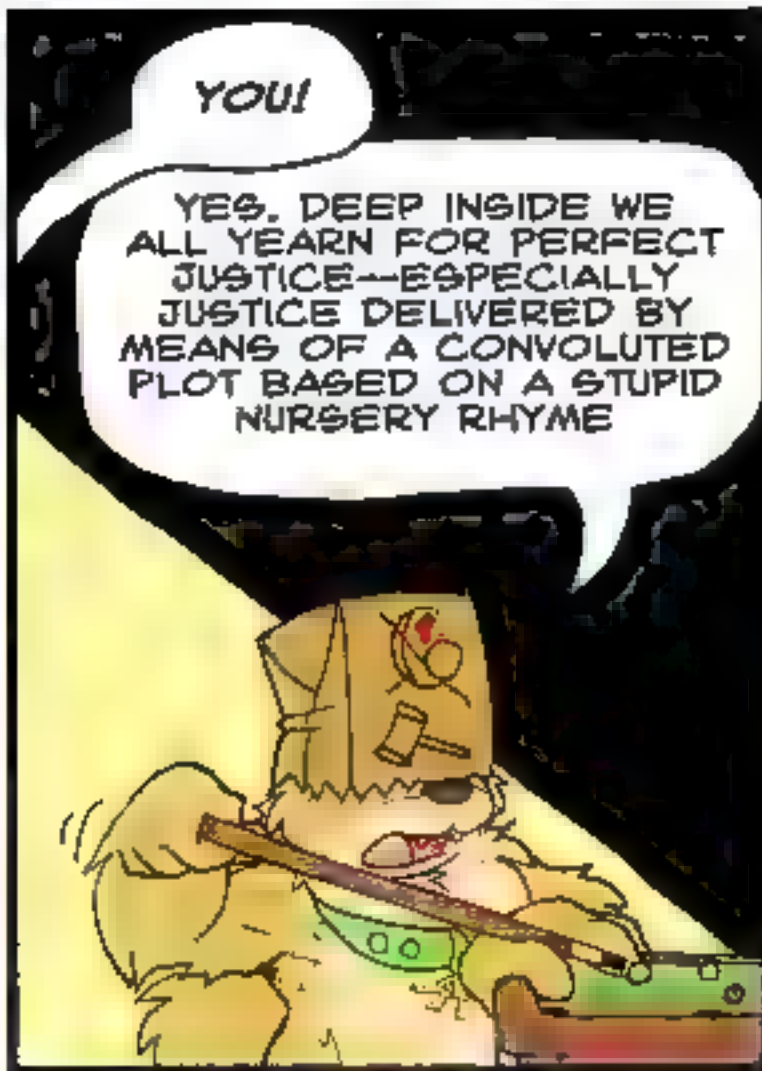


A GAME OF THE MIND,
MS. CLAYTHORNE



YOU!

YES, DEEP INSIDE WE
ALL YEARN FOR PERFECT
JUSTICE--ESPECIALLY
JUSTICE DELIVERED BY
MEANS OF A CONVOLUTED
PLOT BASED ON A STUPID
NURSERY RHYME

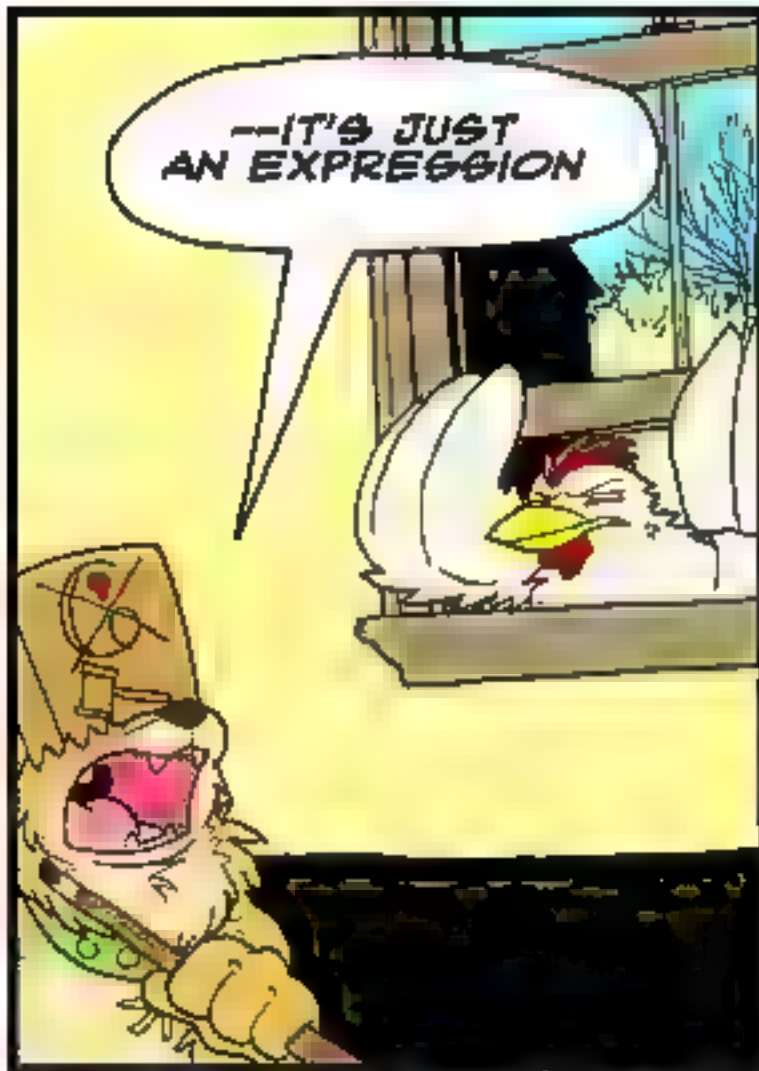


YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY HAVE
PREDICTED EVERYONE'S
MOVEMENTS!

I DIDN'T HAVE TO!
AT FIRST, EVERYONE'S
MOVEMENTS WERE EASY
TO GUIDE, VERY SIMPLE
WHEN YOU'RE ALL RUNNING
AROUND LIKE CHICKENS
WITH THEIR HEADS
CUT--



--IT'S JUST
AN EXPRESSION



THE ONLY THING I NEEDED
FOR THE ENDGAME WAS A
SAP, AND DR. ARMSTRONG
FILLED THAT ROLE NICELY.
I TOLD HIM WE WOULD PUT ON
THE RUSE IN ORDER TO
CATCH THE "REAL"
MR. OWEN



I'LL DRAW A GUNSHOT WOUND
ON THE BAG AND PRETEND
TO BE DEAD, EXACTLY IN
LINE WITH THE POEM!

AND THAT WILL HELP
YOU FIGURE OUT WHO
MR. OWEN IS?

... SURE!



THEN I PUSHED
HIM OVER A CLIFF
THIS MORNING



AND NOW HERE WE ARE
BY MY CALCULATIONS, YOU'RE IN A
POST-HYPNOTIC TRANCE FOLLOWING
DISTRESSING TRAUMA AND WILL
HANG YOURSELF

THAT'S
STUPID

LOOK,
BEFORE US SERIAL
KILLERS GOT TELEPORT-
BEHIND-YOU POWERS, WE
HAD TO MAKE DO WITH
PERFECT UNDERSTANDING
OF BEHAVIOR



IT'S NOT LIKE IT MATTERS ANYWAY,
I'M GONNA DRINK POISON, THEN
THE AUTHORITIES WILL FIND YOU EITHER
DEAD, OR ALIVE ON AN ISLAND WITH
NINE CORPSES. SO, HANGING EITHER
HAPPENS HERE OR IN PRISON

... **UNLESS**, AND THIS IS JUST A
SHOT IN THE DARK, YOU DIDN'T **ACTUALLY**
SHOOT LOMBARD ON THE BEACH AND
MADE A SECRET PACT WITH HIM SO YOU
COULD BOTH GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE?

NO, I DEFINITELY SHOT HIM.
DUDE WAS TOTALLY CREEPIN'

WELL **GOOD**, IT WOULD
HAVE BEEN ODD IF MY
PERFECT UNDERSTANDING OF
BEHAVIOR ABRUPTLY ENDED
JUST FOR AN IRONIC
COMEUPPANCE

SLRP



Rick Griffin



KEVIN I WANT TO GET
THAT CAR SHAPED LIKE A
KETCHUP BOTTLE AND
DRIVE AROUND BEHIND
THE WEINERMOBILE!

SASHA, DO YOU
REALIZE WHAT
YOU'RE SAYING?

BECAUSE IT SOUNDS
AWESOME!

EEEE!

OH WAIT, NO, NEITHER
OF US CAN DRIVE

WE HAVE
LICENSES,
BILLY!

IT'S A DOG
LICENSE,
SASHA!

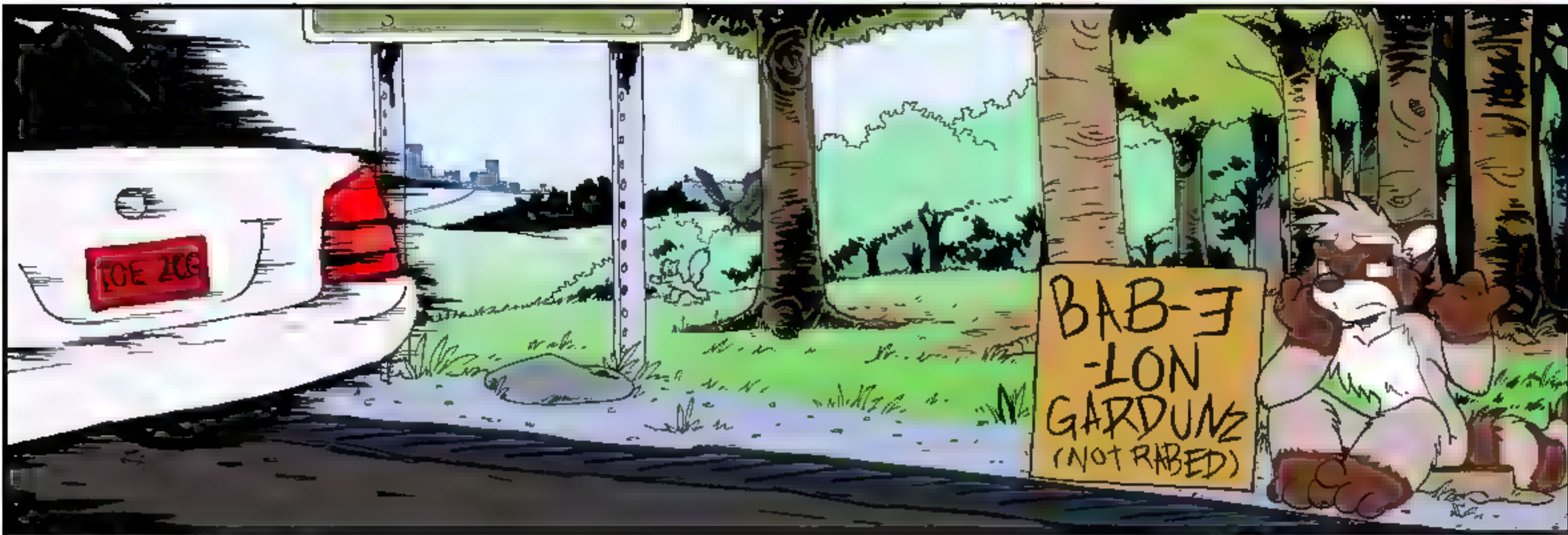
THAT MEANS WE CAN
ONLY DRIVE CARS THAT ARE
SHAPED LIKE DOGS

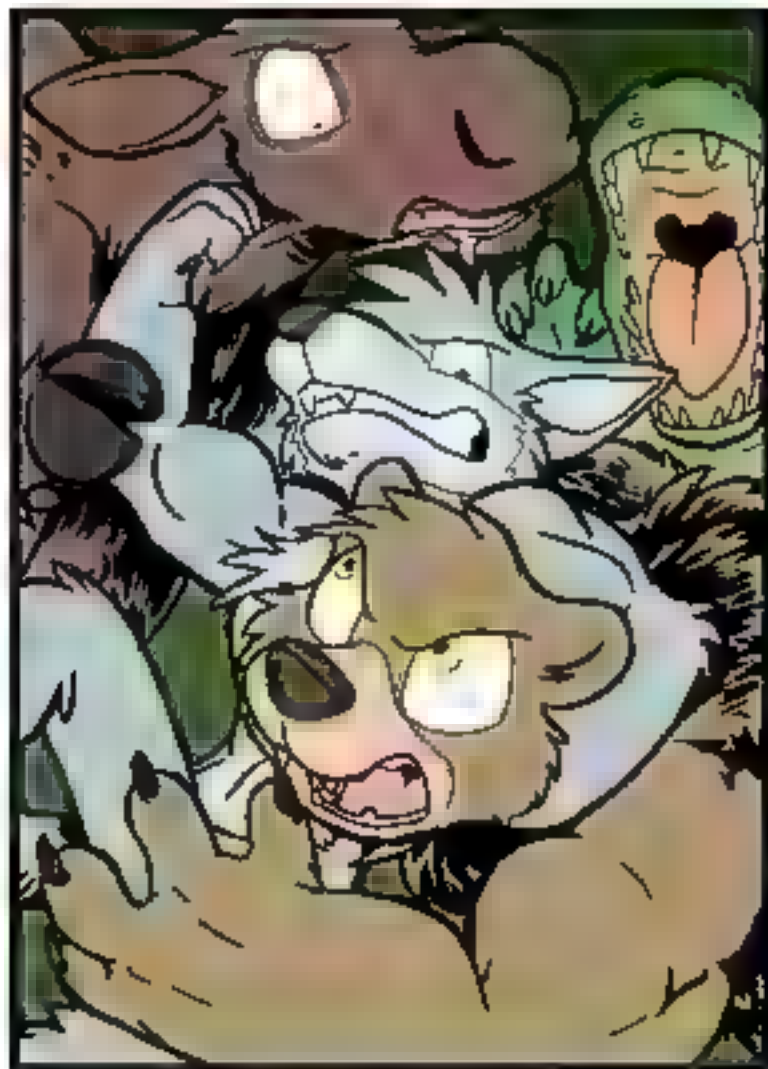
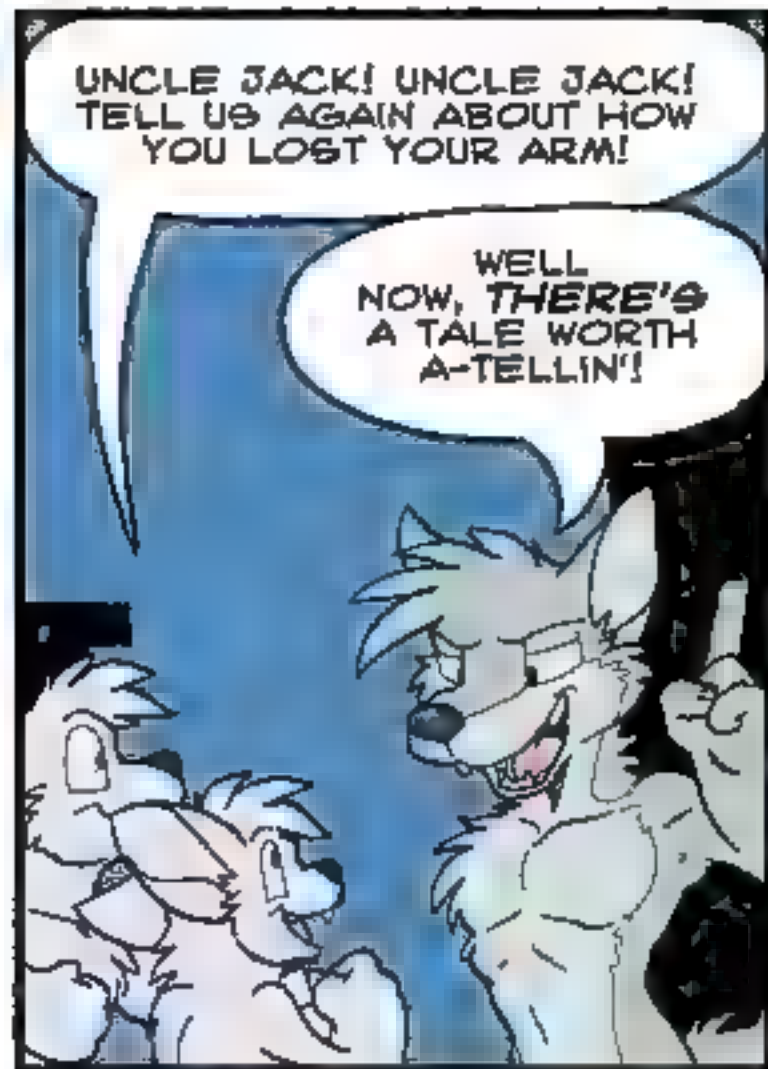
I THINK WE
CAN MAKE THAT
WORK













UNCLE DARYL! UNCLE DARYL!
TELL US THE STORY ABOUT HOW YOU
GOT FAT!



UM, I THINK YOU WANT
YOUR OTHER UNCLE DARYL?

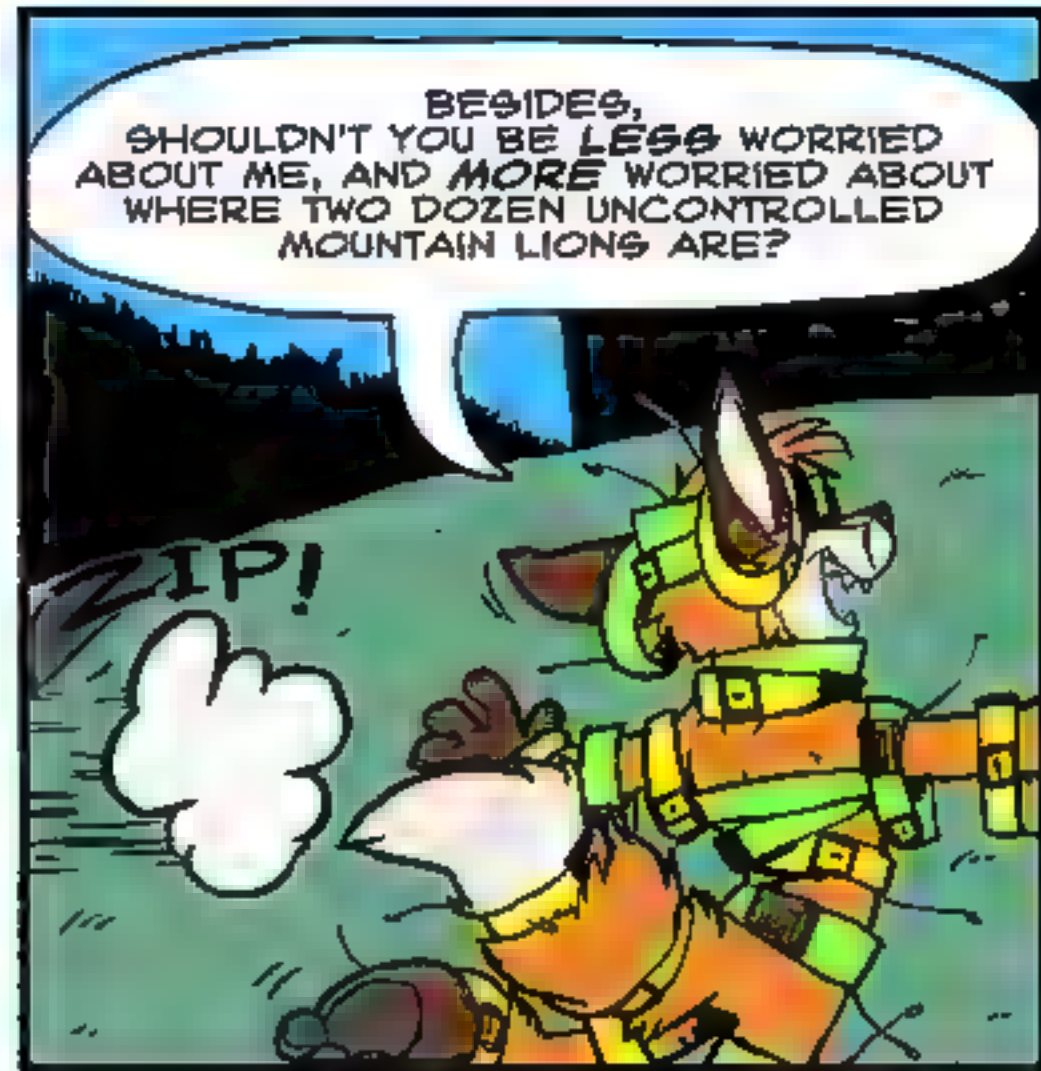
YOU TELL IT
BETTER

UNCLE DEAD EYE! UNCLE DEAD EYE!
TELL US THE STORY ABOUT HOW YOU
LOST YOUR EAR!



THIS IS
MY FAVORITE
PART





WOAH-HO! YOU'RE LISTENING
TO THE MORNING EXPOSITION
HOUR ON WPIT WITH YOUR
HOSTS SPONGECAKE AND
THE CROM!

WE HAVE OUR WACKY
UNCOMFORTABLE CRANK
CALLS COMING UP, BUT FIRST
WE HAVE THE LIVE RESULTS
FROM OUR DRAWING FOR YOUR
VERY OWN TV SHOW!

AAAAAAAAAAAAH!



OUR ARTISTIC BROTHER IS
STARTING HIS OWN TELEVISION
NETWORK BUT UH-OH!

WAH-WAAAAAH

IT TURNS OUT FIVE PERCENT
OF AIRTIME MUST CONTAIN
EDUCATIONAL CONTENT!

BOOOOOOOOOOO!

THAT'S AN HOUR AND FIFTEEN
MINUTES TO FILL EVERY DAY
AND HE LOOKED TO YOU TO
SHOW YOUR CHOPS!

HAAAAA-YA!



IT WAS AN OPEN BALLOT TO
ANYONE AND EVERYONE,

DEMOCRACY

ALL THAT MATTERED IS WHICH
LOCAL HERO YOU WANTED
TO SEE ON THE AIR!

FANFARE NOISES

LET'S NOW GO LIVE TO THE
DRAWING OUTSIDE THE NEW
BROADCAST STATION!



WHO THE DOOK IS
"THE OPENER OF WAYS"?



YOUR NAME-SLASH-MONIKER
CAME UP IN THE FIRST THIRTY
SHUFFLES, AND OUR BACKUP
STRATEGY SHOWED YOU GOT
93% OF THE VOTE

BUT I DON'T
WANT A TV SHOW!



TECHNICALLY, THE TERMS
OF THE BALLOT IS THAT
THE VOTE IS FOR EACH
HOUSEHOLD, SO--

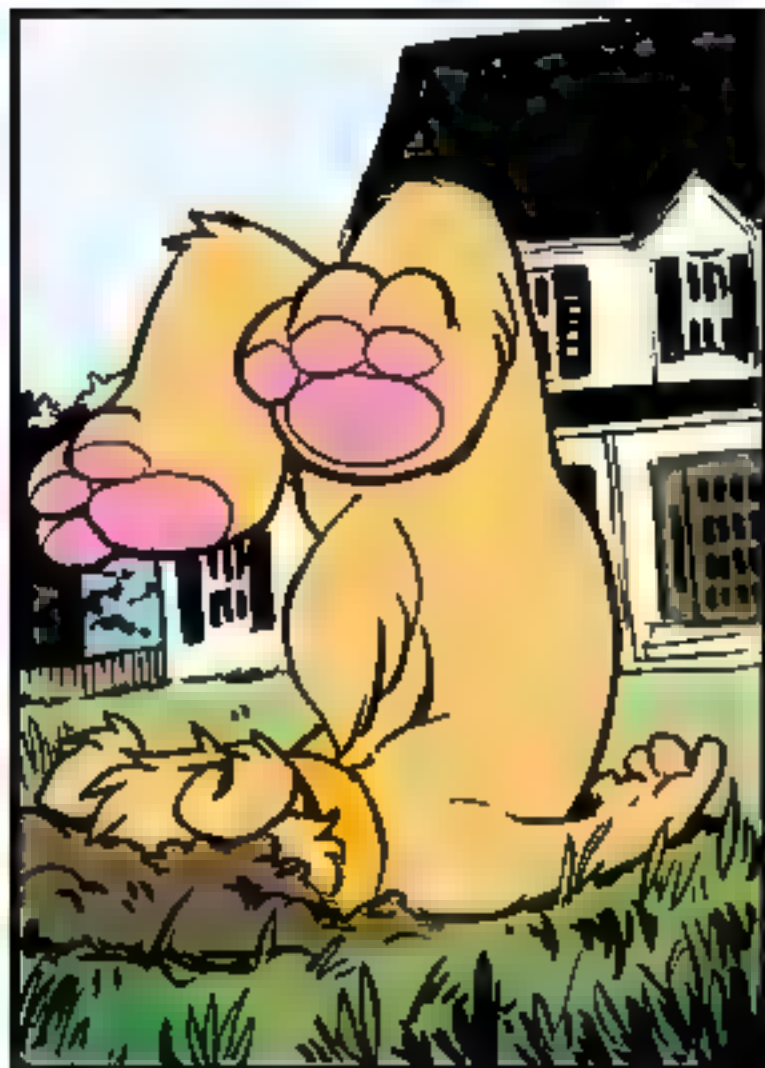
DID SOMEONE
SAY TV SHOW?!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO
TAKE THE RABBIT'S
PLACE, THEN?



TOUGH CALL! ON THE
ONE HAND, I FINALLY
GET ACCOLADES FOR MY
UNCHARTED BRILLIANCE.
ON THE OTHER HAND,
IT MEANS I HAVE TO
COMMUTE--

WAIT, THIS WILL
GET HIM OUT OF
THE HOUSE?!

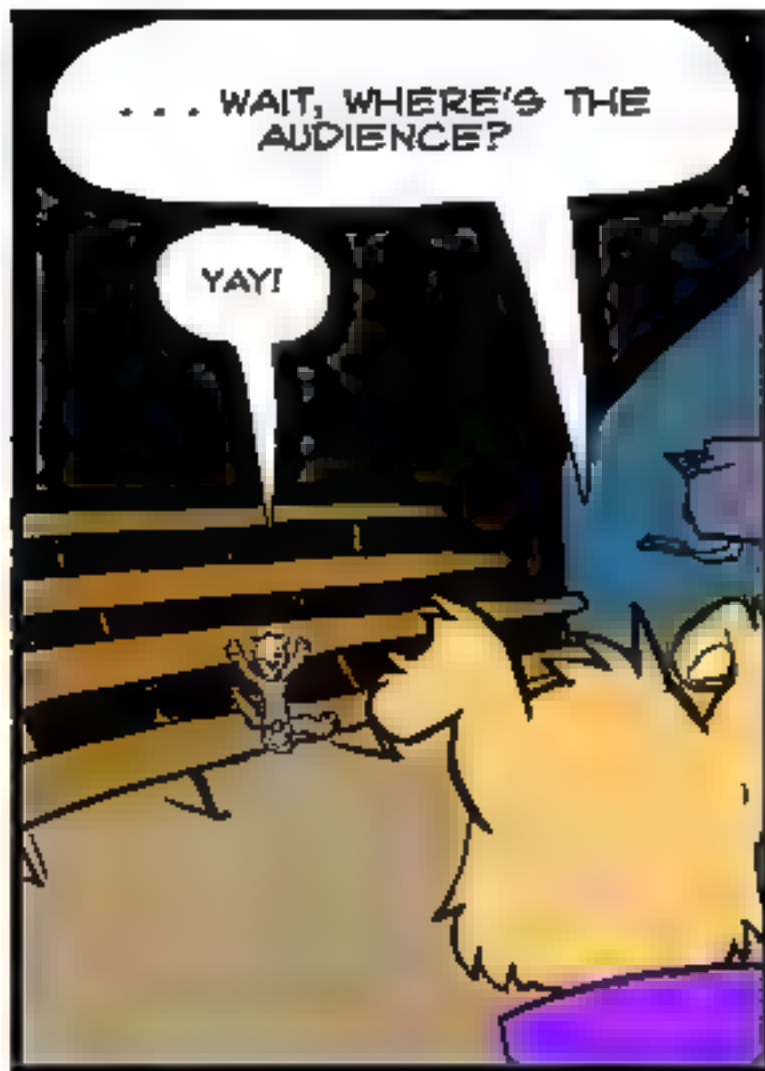


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HEY KIDS! IT'S TIME FOR

The Funtime Learning Hour **is on!**

WITH YOUR HOST,
ARCHIBALD THE DOG!

WAIT, WHAT?



HEY KIDDIES! ARE YOU
READY TO LEARN?

MAYBE

YEAH!

I DUNNO

GEORGE
WASHINGTON!

THEN LET'S TURN TO
THE WHEEL OF THINGS!



WIZZZZ!



OHhhh... WHEEL OF THINGS
WON'T YOU TURN FOR US?
THE LESSON FOR TODAY IS...

DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS

CAT

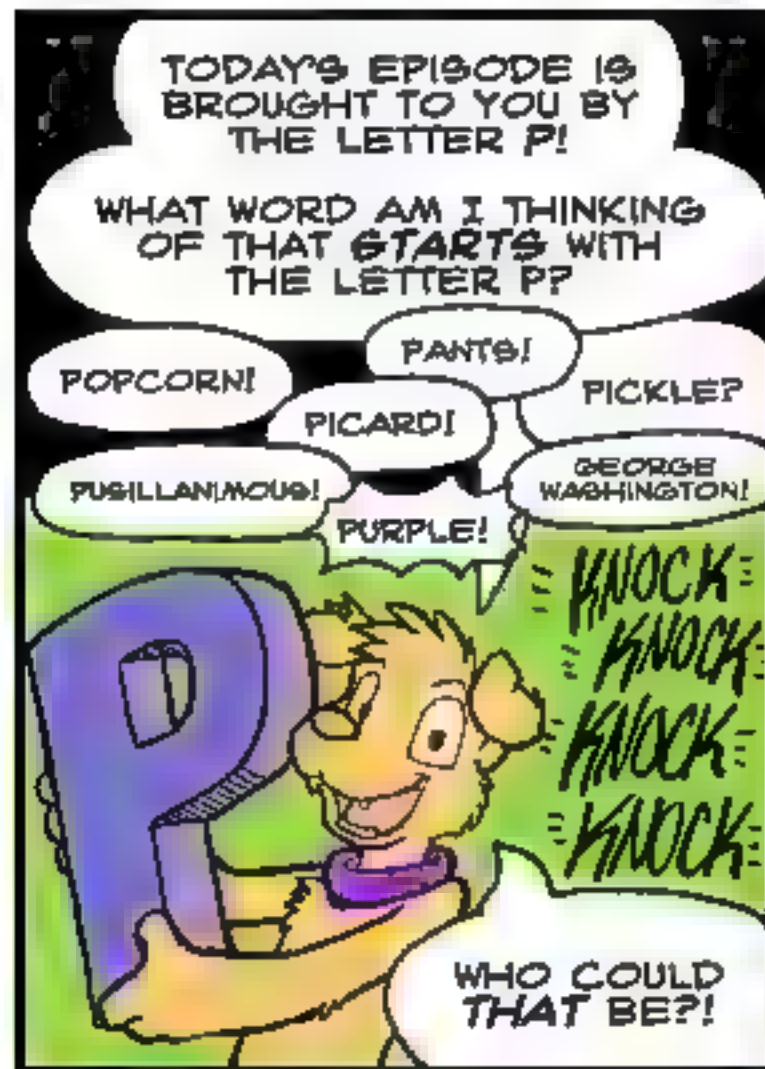
UH...

OH, SORRY, WE REPURPOSED
THE WHEEL FROM OUR OLD
DARTBOARD. WE **MEANT** FOR
THAT TO LAND ON "CATS"

GRAB BAG
IT IS, THEN!



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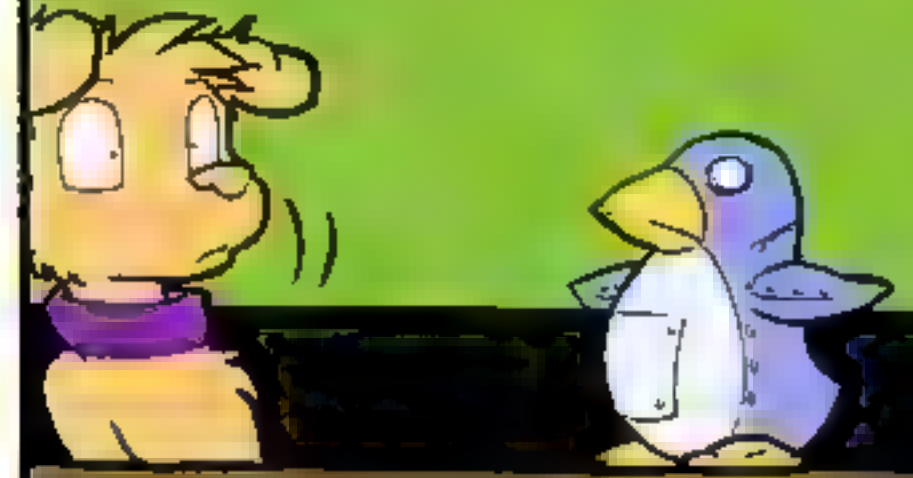


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CHAUNCEY, WHAT WORD DO
YOU KNOW THAT STARTS WITH
THE LETTER P?



PANDEMONIUM

READING CORNER

HEY KIDS! TODAY IN THE READING CORNER, WE'RE TAKING A LOOK AT OUR PRODUCER'S FAVORITE MYSTERY "THE PURLOINED LETTER" BY EDGAR ALLEN POE!



ANYWAY, THE MAIN TAKEAWAY IS: "IF YOU WANT TO GET AWAY WITH BLACKMAIL, DON'T BE SO EXCESSIVELY CLEVER ABOUT IT"



I, UH, DON'T THINK THAT'S THE POINT OF THE STORY

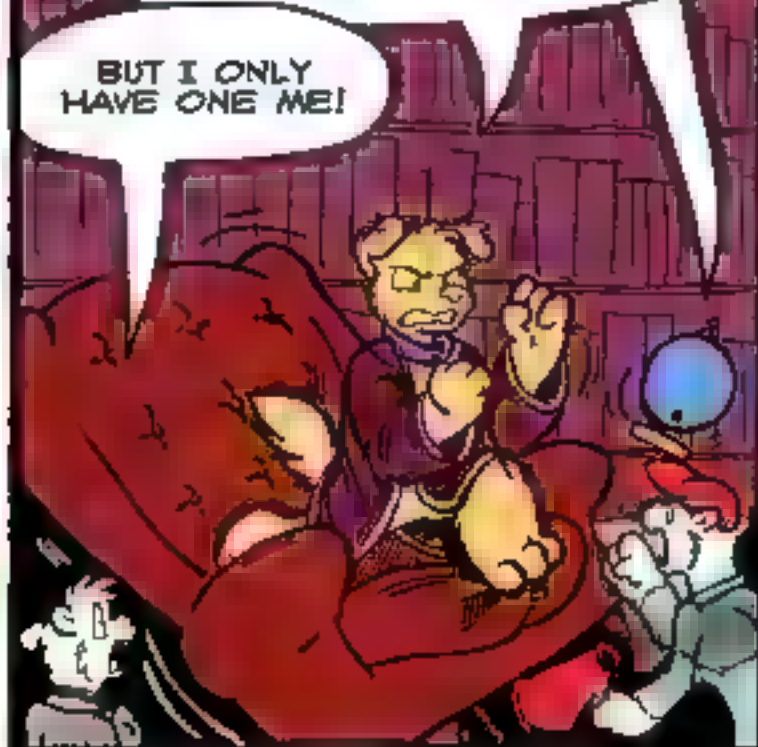
OH, SORRY, I MEANT TO SAY, "COMPARED TO SHERLOCK HOLMES, DUPIN IS A CHUMP"

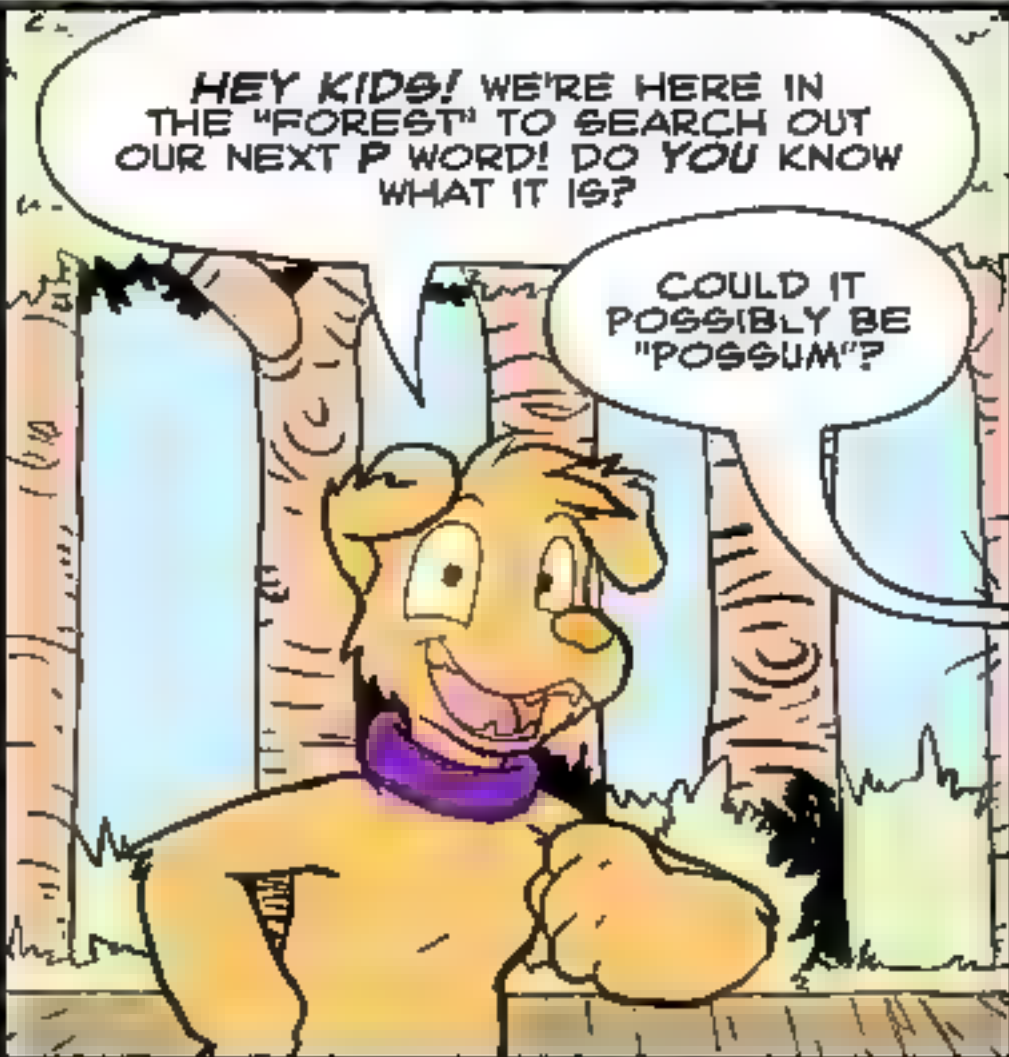


YOU TAKE THAT BACK!

OH, YOU WANNA FIGHT ABOUT IT? C'MON, PUT UP YER DUKES!

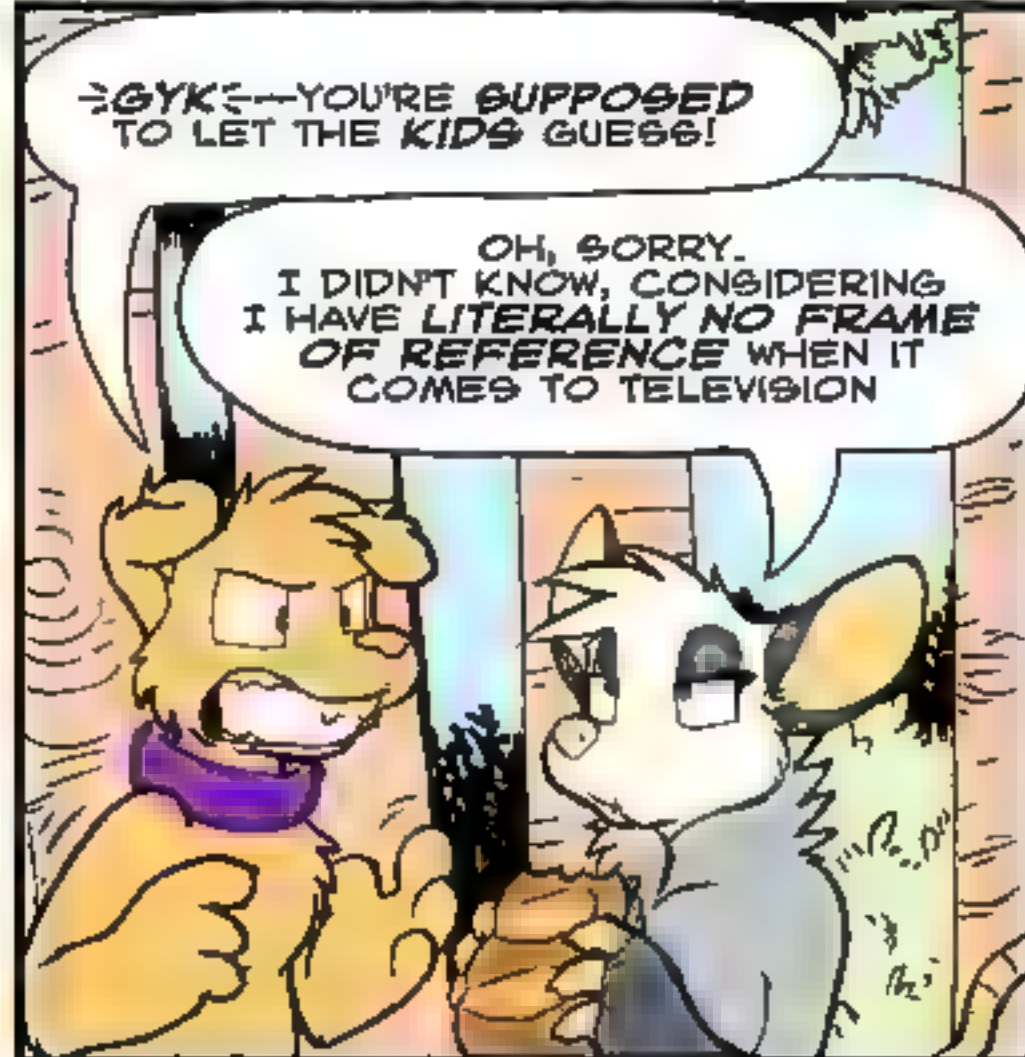
BUT I ONLY HAVE ONE ME!





HEY KIDS! WE'RE HERE IN
THE "FOREST" TO SEARCH OUT
OUR NEXT P WORD! DO YOU KNOW
WHAT IT IS?

COULD IT
POSSIBLY BE
"POSSUM"?



GYK--YOU'RE SUPPOSED
TO LET THE KIDS GUESS!

OH, SORRY.
I DIDN'T KNOW, CONSIDERING
I HAVE LITERALLY NO FRAME
OF REFERENCE WHEN IT
COMES TO TELEVISION



HOW CAN YOU NOT KNOW
WHAT TV IS?! DO YOU LIVE
UNDER A ROCK?

BEFORE I ANSWER,
ASK YOURSELF, "IS THIS
REALLY THE HILL I
CHOOSE TO DIE ON?"

SAVE THE SMART COMMENTS
AND TELL THE KIDS A WORD
THAT STARTS WITH P

"PEPPERONI"
COMES TO MIND

I MEAN SOMETHING
FROM THE FOREST!

"PUGILLANIMOUS"?
I DON'T KNOW, WHERE ARE
THESE INANE QUESTIONS
COMING FROM?

IT'S A WAY OF TEACHING THE
KIDS AT HOME THE ALPHABET
VERY, VERY SLOWLY

YOU MIGHT FIND THEY
LEARN EASIER IF YOU
LET THEM OUT OF THE
GLASS CAGE UP THERE

THAT'S A TELEVISION
YOU FLEA-BEARING
TRASH COMPACTOR!

SAY! ANOTHER P
WORD SPRUNG TO MIND,
WOULD YOU LIKE TO
SEE IT?

HEY KIDS . . . WE'RE GOING
TO . . . WE'RE INTRODUCING
A NEW SEGMENT ON THE
VERY FIRST EPISODE . . .
IT'S NAPTIME

SO I'M JUST GOING TO LAY
HERE FOR A FEW MINUTES
. . . I SUGGEST YOU KIDS
DO THE SAME . . .

KRAP KRAK KRAP
PREOOO!

HEY ARCHIBALD! YOU CAN'T
MISS OUT ON THE PARTY!
TODAY IS CHAUNCEY'S
BIRTHDAY!

REMEMBER KIDS, STEPPING
OUTSIDE YOUR COMFORT ZONE
WILL OPEN YOU UP TO A NEW
AND EXCITING WORLD, FILLED
WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR
EVERYONE ELSE TO
UTTERLY IRRITATE YOU

HEY KIDS!
SORRY ABOUT THAT
CHAUNCEY HAD TO GO AWAY
FOR A BIT--PARTY ACROSS
TOWN
ANYWAY, CAN YOU
TELL ME--



STOP CRYING!
NOBODY GETS TO CRY
UNLESS THEY KNOW A
WORD FOR IT THAT
STARTS WITH "P"!



ARCHIBALD, YOU'RE
LASHING OUT
YOU NEED TO APOLOGIZE
AND TAKE SOME DEEP,
CALMING BREATHS
IF YOU CAN'T DO IT FOR
YOURSELF, WILL YOU DO IT
FOR THE FATHER OF
YOUR COUNTRY?



**The
Funtime Learning
Hour or so
is having technical
difficulties!**



We'll be right back!

ARCHIBALD NO!
YOU'RE HURTING
PRESIDENT LINCOLN!

TIGER, PLEASE . . . YOU'VE
ALREADY BEEN OFF THE AIR
FOR FIVE MINUTES, AND THIS
IS THE SECOND TIME THE
SET'S CAUGHT FIRE

SO JUST PUT THE
BASEBALL BAT DOWN . . .

ASS STANT
DIRECTOR

NO! I STILL HAVE
FORTY MINUTES LEFT
TO FILL WITH P-WORDS!

AND NOBODY GETS
TO LEAVE UNTIL WE'VE
COVERED ALL OF
THEM!

I'VE GOT A
P WORD FOR
YOU!



DOES "TACKLE"
START WITH P?

YOU'RE THINKING
OF "POUNCE"

IF YOU
INSIST!

WE KNOW YOU'RE IN HERE!
EVERY TEN SECONDS YOU
DON'T SURRENDER, WE'RE
ADDING ANOTHER COUNT OF
RESISTING ARREST!

HE'S A DOG,
RESISTING ARREST
DOESN'T STICK
WITH HIM

AWW,
BUT THAT'S
MY FAVORITE
PART

LIGHTS

THIS IS IT...
THEY'RE TAKING MY SHOW
AWAY, MY LAST CHANCE AT
RIGHTFUL STARDOM!

BUT HOW CAN YOU
ARREST ME WHEN YOU HAVE
LIGHTS IN YOUR EYES!

TIGER WAIT! WE
HAVEN'T INSTALLED
THE VOLTAGE REG--



HEY HEY HEY! YOU'RE LISTENING TO
THE EPILOGUE AFTERNOON ON KPIT
WITH SPONGECAKE AND THE CHERRY
ON TOP, FILLING IN FOR THE CROM

SOME TRAGIC NEWS, THE
MILTON TELEVISION STUDIO HAS
EXPLODED!

preeeeeeeeeee

THAT'S NOT THE RIGHT—
WHAT'S THE WORD, CHERRY ON TOP?

FORTUNATELY, IT SEEMS EVERYONE WAS
INSULATED FROM THE BLAST THANKS TO
THE DENSELY-PACKED PLYWOOD SOUND
STAGE, AND MANAGED TO ESCAPE WITH
ONLY MINOR SCRAPES AND A LOT OF
SPLINTERS

THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
EXPLOSION, TIGER "ARCHIBALD" ARBELT,
WAS SENTENCED TO PROBATION AND
TOLD HE WAS A "VERY BAD DOG"

SIS, YOU COULD
AT LEAST TRY
TO USE THE
SOUNDBOARD

DUE TO A CONTRACT
OVERSIGHT, HOWEVER,
HE WAS ONLY
FINANCIALLY LIABLE FOR
GARNISHED WAGES

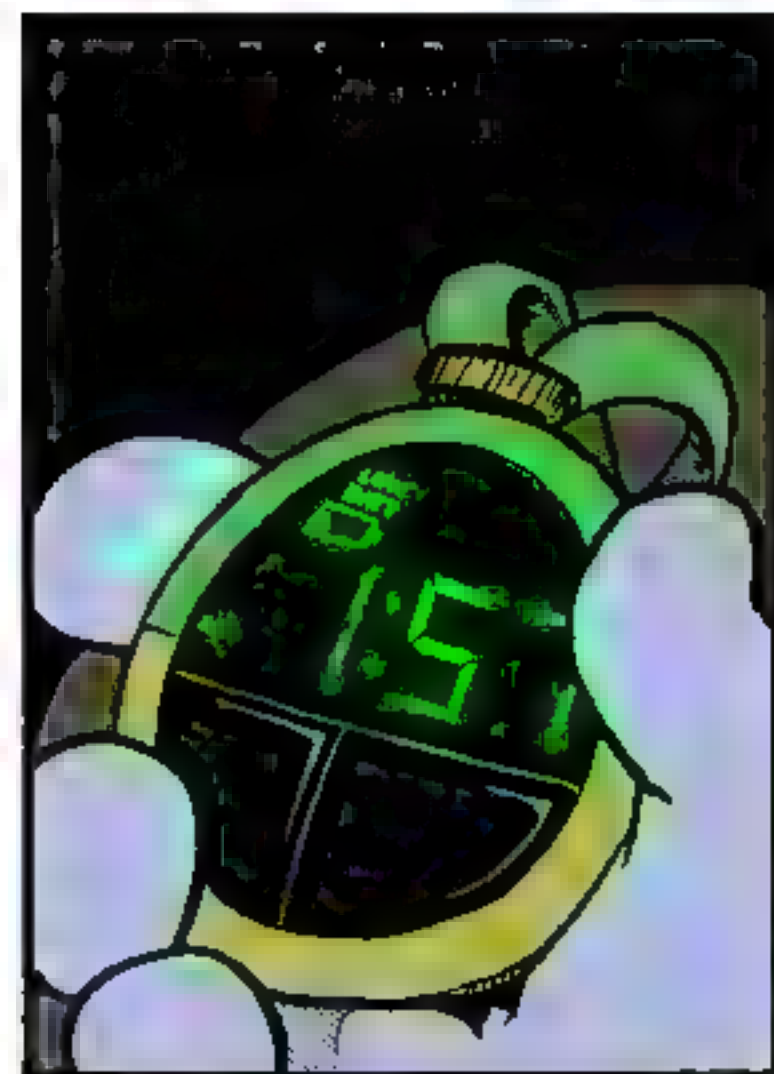
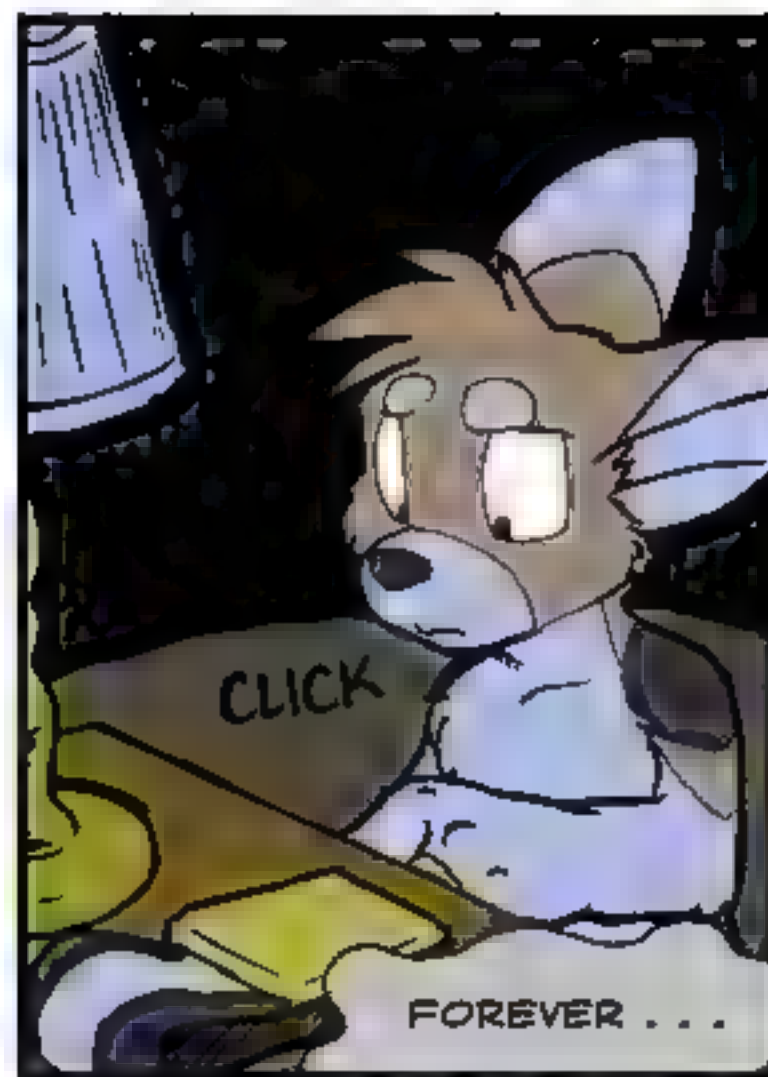
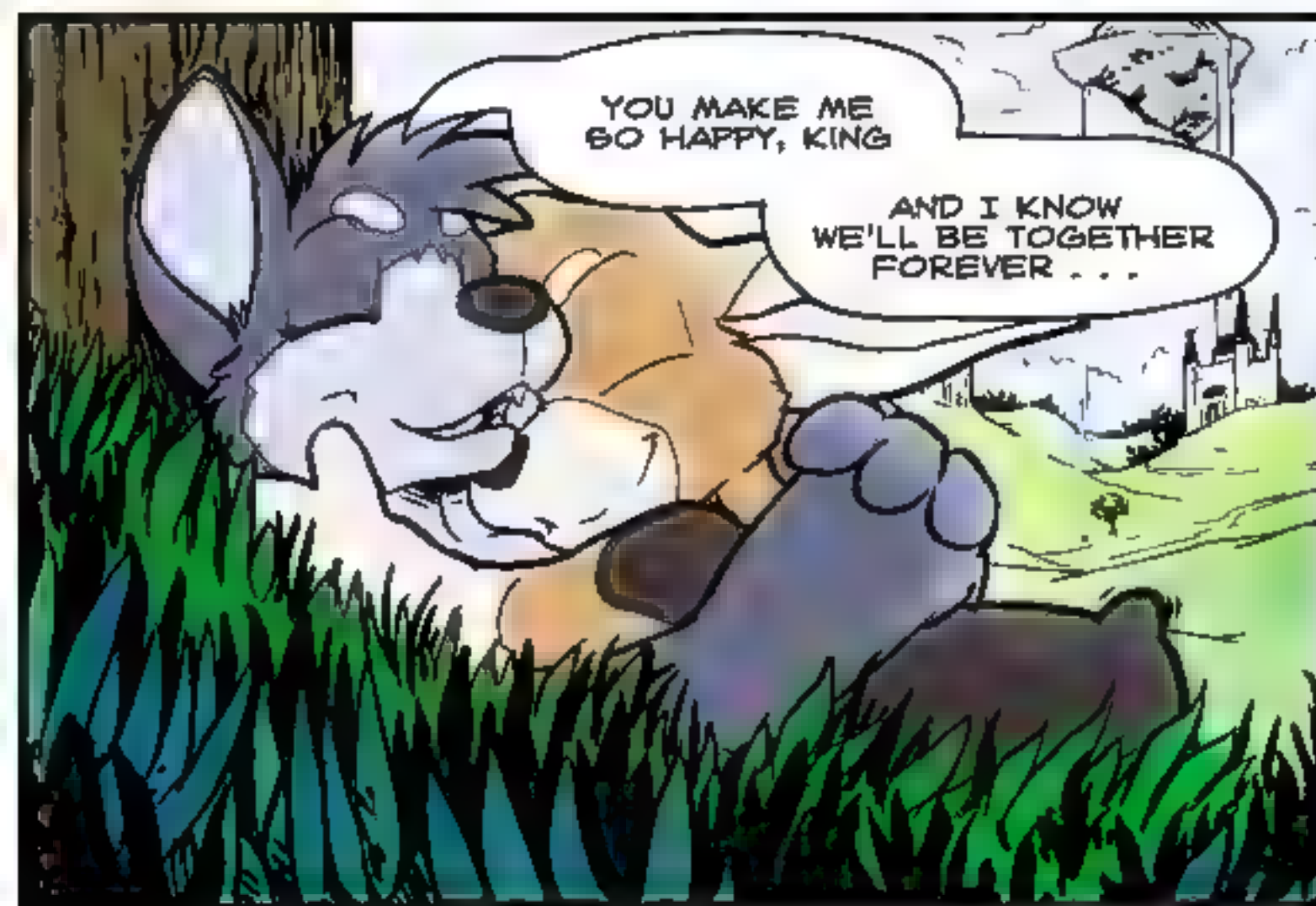
ROCK MILTON HAS NO
PLANS ON CONTINUING
THE SHOW, HOWEVER . . .

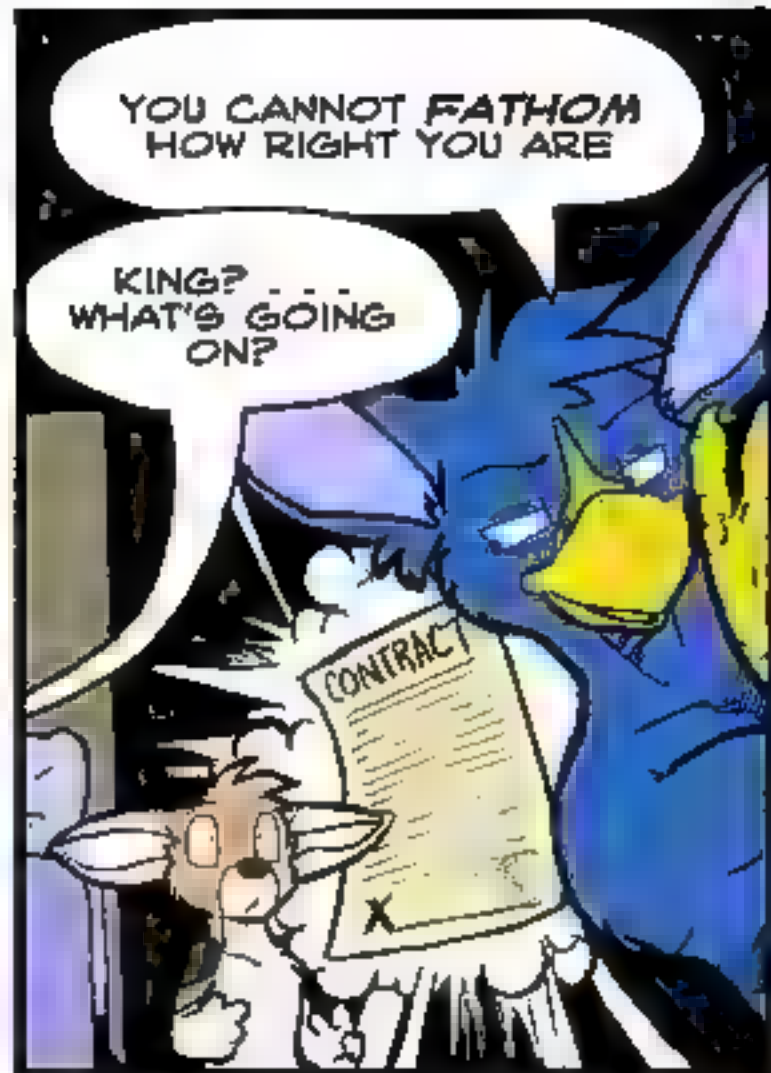
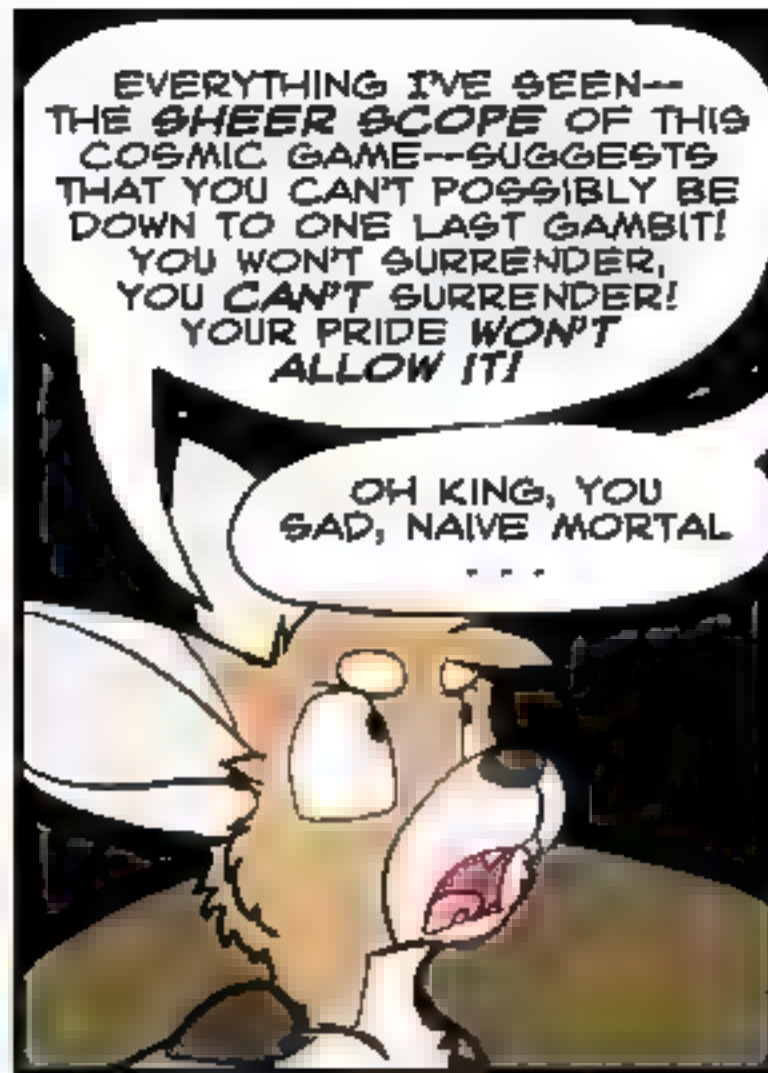
THE FUNTIME LEARNING
HOUR OR SO HAS BEEN
PURCHASED BY A&E FOR
1.4 MILLION DOLLARS

CATCH THE ENTIRE
TWELVE-PART MINISERIES
ON THIS SUMMER'S
REALITY TV LINEUP!

SHAREHOLDERS
MEETING

END!







AH! BAILEY!
I THOUGHT THIS WAS PRIVA--
I MEAN... THIS IS ALL
A DREAM! BACK TO SLEEP!

QUITE
REAL
I'M
AFRAID



YOU KEEP
YOUR BEAK
SHUT!

REALLY, IS **SILENCE**
THE ANSWER HERE?

IF YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT
THE BIG BLUE **GLISTENING HUNK**
OF A GRYPHON THAT SUDDENLY
APPEARED IN YOUR BEDROOM,
I BELIEVE YOUR WIFE HAS A
RIGHT TO KNOW



KING, PLEASE DO WHAT THE
MONSTROUS APPARITION SAYS BEFORE
I START SCREAMING UNCONTROLLABLY

I SAID
**"GLISTENING
HUNK"!**

THIS IS PETE

HE IS BASICALLY A DEMIGOD,
AND HE'S PLAYING A COSMIC
GAME THAT USES MORTALS
AS THE PLAYING PIECES--
AND I HAPPEN TO BE ONE
OF THESE PIECES

SO HE'S BEEN EXTORTING
ME FOR THE LAST SEVERAL
YEARS TRYING TO FORCE
ME TO COOPERATE

NOT PRECISELY EXTORTION
SO MUCH AS COLLECTIONS--
HE **REALLY DOES** OWE ME

YOU LIAR!
YOU TORE ME AWAY
FROM EVERYTHING AND
CAUSED ME NOTHING
BUT MISERY!

"QUEENIE" MIGHT NOT
SEE IT THAT WAY, **STUD**

UNLESS SHE'S "THE OL'
BATTLE AXE" ALREADY,
AND IN ONLY ONE YEAR?
MARRIAGE REALLY IS
DETERIORATING THESE DAYS

YOU HAD **NOTHING**
TO DO WITH THAT!

THEN ASK HER
WHAT SHE'D BE TO
YOU WITHOUT ME!

**BOTH OF YOU SHUT
YOUR BISCUIT HOLES!**

AH, NOW I SEE
WHAT YOU MEAN

**I WILL PLAY BADMINTON
WITH YOUR SCISSORED-
OFF WINGS, BEAKIE!**

I DON'T CARE WHAT PLANET
OR OTHERWORLD YOU COME
FROM

I DON'T CARE WHAT HE'D
BE "WITHOUT YOU"

YOU NEED TO *GET OUT*



JUST TELL HIM, KING
THERE ISN'T A *THING* IN
THIS WORLD THAT COULD
KEEP ME FROM--



I USED
TO BE *HUMAN*,
ALRIGHT?!

PETE TURNED ME
INTO *THIS*!



... OKAY, WE'VE CLEARLY
HIT THE ABSURDITY LIMIT
IN THE DREAM, SO I'LL JUST
WILL MYSELF AWAKE

BAILEY...



IT'S TRUE . . .
WHEN I WAS FIRST CHANGED
I HATED IT

I WAS CONFUSED AND SCARED--AND
BIG BIRD DIDN'T REALLY DO MUCH
TO HELP

OH YES I DID
I BELIEVE VERY MUCH THAT
CHARACTER IS REFINED
THROUGH HARDSHIP

--MORTAL CHARACTER;
I DON'T GO FOR THAT
STUFF MYSELF

THAT DOESN'T GIVE YOU
THE RIGHT TO USE ME!

ARE YOU **HAPPY**
WITH YOUR LIFE, KING?

. . . YES

THEN
WHAT'S THE WORRY?
ALL YOU NEED TO DO
TO KEEP YOUR **LIFE AND**
WIFE IS BECOME MY
AVATAR FOR A WHILE,
FIGHT FOR ME IN
BRUTAL COMBAT,
FOLLOW MY EVERY
BIDDING--

YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES I
WONDER IF YOU'RE BEING
REASONABLE, BUT THEN--

MAYBE I JUST
BELIEVE IN FULL
DISCLOSURE

BUT YOU'D
BE LYING

AND **THAT** WOULD
BE UNBECOMING
OF ME!

SO . . . IF YOU DON'T GET
AN AVATAR TO FIGHT FOR YOU
. . . YOU TURN KING BACK INTO
A HUMAN, AND THIS ALL GOES
AWAY?

CORRECTION, THE
SPELL EXPIRES ON
ITS OWN

WHATEVER!

KING . . . UNDERSTAND
WHEN I SAY "I LOVE YOU"
I DO NOT SAY IT LIGHTLY

I KNOW, BUT
I CAN'T JUST--

TAKE ME INSTEAD!

BAILEY
NO!

I HAVE TO HAND IT TO YOU KING . . .
YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO TRANSFORM
PITY INTO DEVOTION ***

CONTRACT

FROM THE HANDBOOK
OF PLAYERS, CHAPTER 9
VERSE 45

THOSE WHO OF LOVE AND FURY INTERCEDE FOR ANOTHER
MAY THEMSELVES TAKE ON THE POWER OF THE WHITE AVENGER!

WIN FOR ME, MY AVATAR,
AND HAVE YOUR WISHES GRANTED!

B-BAILEY? . . .

HI HONEY!

ARE
YOU OKAY?

NEVER BETTER!
I FEEL LIKE I COULD TAKE
A FEW LAPS AROUND ALASKA.
LET'S RUN TO ALASKA

BETTER TO
HOLD OFF
ON THAT,
DEAR

THIS ISN'T FAIR!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE
TO PUT YOURSELF THROUGH
THIS FOR ME . . .

IF THERE'S ANYONE I'D
PUT MY LIFE ON THE LINE
FOR, IT'S YOU

I WON'T ACCEPT IT!
I WON'T LET YOU GO!

I'M SORRY . . .
I WILL ALWAYS
LOVE YOU

OOP—DRAGON JUST NOTICED!
TIME TO GET GOING!

KING!—

SNAP!

POOF

WHERE ARE YOU
TAKING HER?!

TO A BIG CONVENIENT
WILDERNESS ON THE OTHER
SIDE OF THE WORLD
DONT WORRY, I'LL BRING
HER BACK . . .

. . . IN, OH,
SEVEN MONTHS
OR SO

SEVEN
MONTHS?!

ON THE INSIDE!
IT MIGHT BE A
COUPLE YEARS
OTHERWISE

YEARS?!

IT'S THE CULMINATION OF
7000 YEARS OF PLANNING!
IT'S GOING TO TAKE TIME!
BUT I WOULDN'T WORRY
ABOUT IT—SHE'S A LOT MORE
POWERFUL THAN YOU WOULD
HAVE EVER BEEN

I'LL MAKE SURE SHE'S
TAKEN CARE OF~

IN THE MEANTIME,
SINCE THE DUEL'S STARTED,
MY RESTRICTION ON MAGIC'S
BEEN LIFTED

TRY NOT TO PANIC TOO MUCH
WHEN YOU WAKE UP!

SNAP



Rick Griffin



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I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH YOU
NEED ME TO REASSURE YOU--
WHATEVER YOU HAPPEN TO LOOK LIKE,
I AM PREPARED FOR IT

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU, BUT I DON'T THINK
THERE'S MUCH ELSE I CAN DO TO
PREPARE YOU, SO . . .

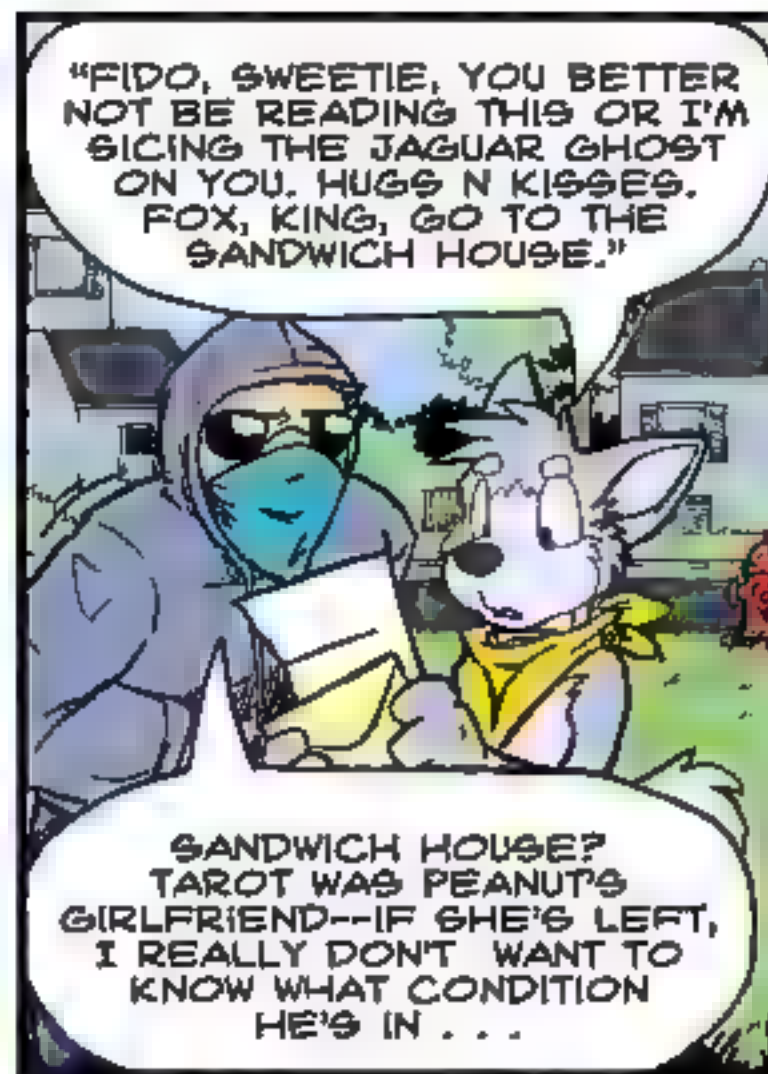
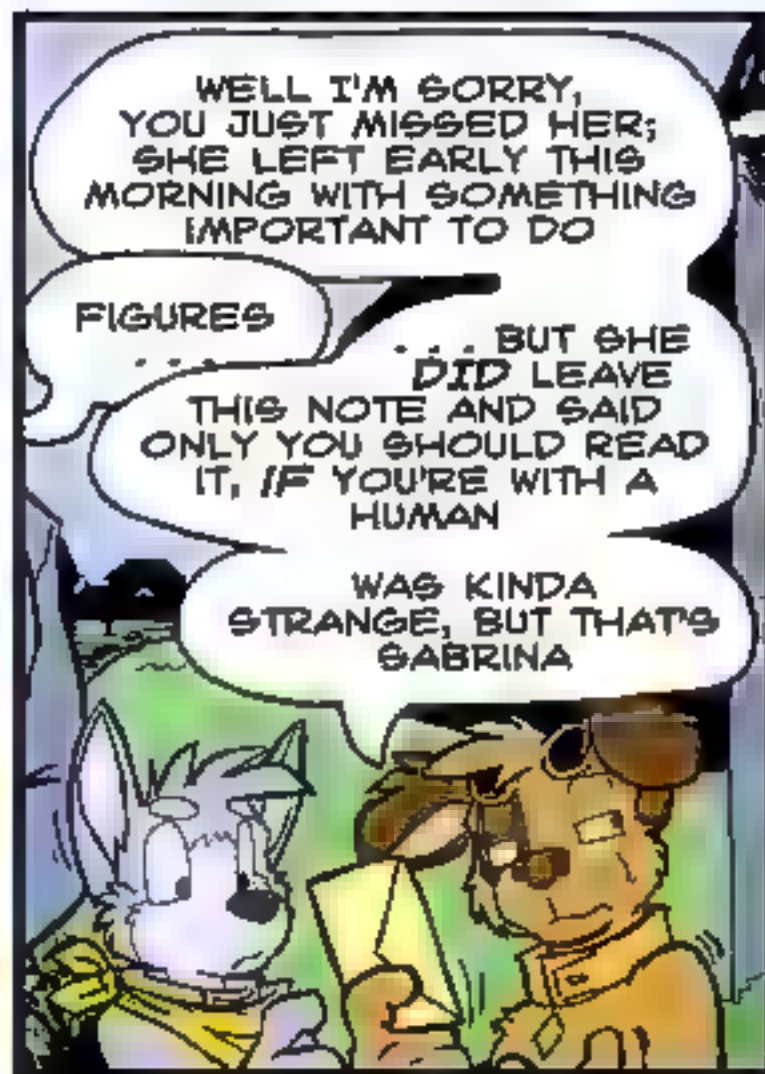
. . . KING?

TOLD YOU SO

OH, SHUT
UP . . .



Rick Griffin



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TAROT TOLD ME I WASN'T TO GIVE THIS THING TO YOU UNTIL THE THING SHE WAS GOING TO DO WITH DRAGON AND SABRINA HAPPENED, BECAUSE UNLESS THAT HAPPENED THEN THIS THING WAS GOING TO HAPPEN WOULD HAPPEN DIFFERENTLY THAN IT HAS HAPPENED, IN WHICH CASE THIS THING WOULD HAPPEN DIFFERENTLY

I DON'T FOLLOW

HERE, I GIVE YOU THING

WHAT IS IT?

I DUNNO. SOME MAGIC THING. TAROT HAS TONS OF THEM, BUT THIS ONE IS YOURS AND MR. DOGSMELL'S

WELL THAT'S NOT VERY HELPFUL IF WE DON'T--

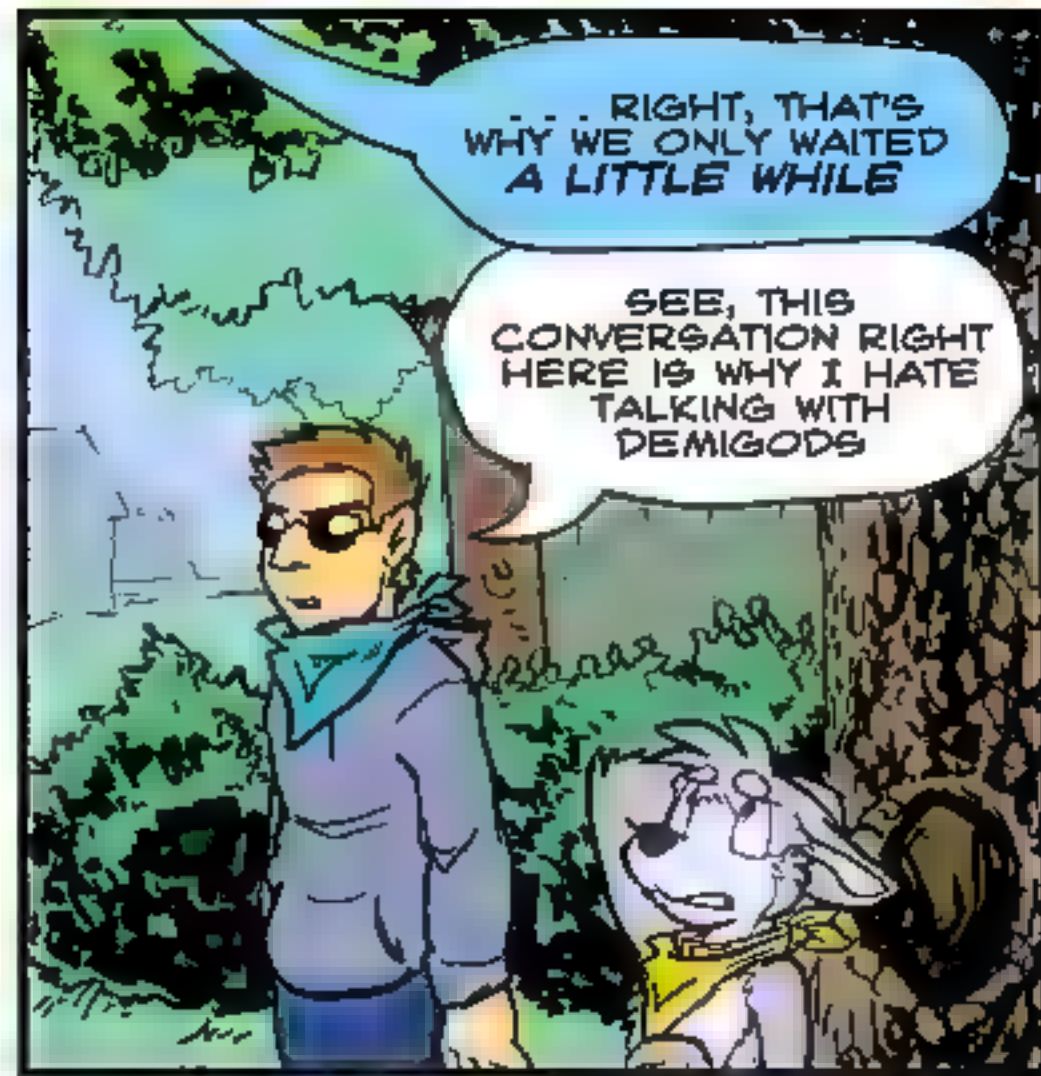
JOEL ROBINSON, I AM HERE FOR YOUR SOUL!

AAAAAH!

OR MORE SPECIFICALLY, FOR THE PART OF YOUR SOUL THAT IS YOUR FATE. DO YOU HAVE IT ON YOU?

YOU DID THAT ON PURPOSE!

BUT OF COURSE!







TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND
THE **WHAT-ICAN** WAY?

SPOT:

(superdog)

GROUNDING!



Aha ha ha! I, the
FLICK, have acquired
Orphanite! Soon,
Spot (superdog) will
bow down to ME!



Sup!

What...
why aren't
you weakened?
??

BAM

Oh... I thought something
was different! See,
what you have here is
not regular **GRAY**
orphanite, but
PLAID orphanite

WHAT

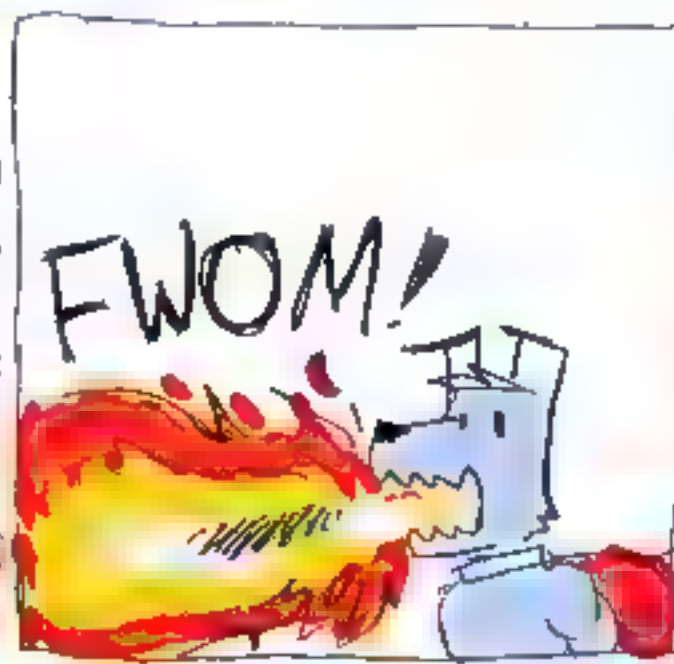
WAIT... is that a
good/evil thing?
what does **PLAID**
ORPHANITE do?



Not much, really...
I lose **ONE** of my
MANY powers for
a random amount
of time



OOH! Which is it?
Super-strength?
Invulnerability?
I can still make
my evil plans
work if you can't—



Now to dispose
of this property
and **FLY** to...

AND SO...



... Uh-oh

... my intention to
WALK across this
great nation, to get
in touch with the
common people in a
show of **SOLIDARITY**,
and to **PRESERVE** my
BRANDING... uh, I mean

NEXT: seriously?!

SUPERDOG! Stripe Sylv, Triweekly Globe, Intrepid reporter! I have a few questions for —

Uh, I know who you are, Stripe, we're totally going out?

Ix-nay on the ecrets-Say! Papparazzi, eh?

Papa Razzi? I could go for some pizza



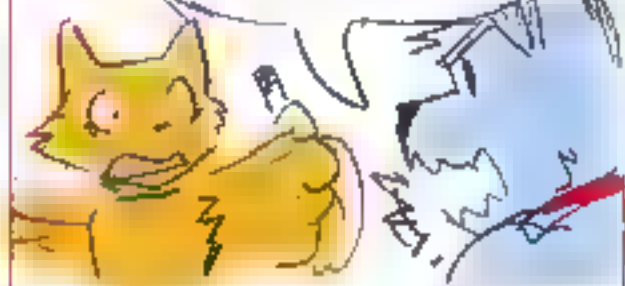
Could you just tell me what the real deal is with this stunt?

Okay, but only if you don't publish this, because it's Super Embarrassing... a power I still have, by the way



YOU LOST YOUR FLIGHT?!

Hey! Figuring it out on your own doesn't give you a freebie!



Okay, I won't publish... but don't you still have, like, superspeed?

Flight and super speed are kinda similar? Ish?

We'll pretend I'm not lazy



What about super Strength? What if you jumped hard enough —

JUMP? You say that like LEAPING TALL BUILDINGS was an acceptable substitute!



You. you're still able to save the world, right?

Oh sure, the Justice House has my back there... but, don't tell them unless the world is literally minutes from exploding



The JUSTICE HOUSE doesn't know either?!

SHH! All-seeing cameras!



If the Justice House learned I lost my flight, then **THE REGULAR HAWK**, whose ONLY power is flight, would mock me **MERCILESSLY**

Because that's literally all I've done to him since he joined



That's terrible... why would he do that?!

You know, Spot, I think a looong walk might be good for you ..

Yo yo what do we have here, some kind of stupid punk w/a godlike physique?



Yes in our territory now! Youz entered the WRONG neighborhood!

Baila!
Yo yo co balyhoo
Whaatz, taw



Woohoo!

*EDITOR'S NOTE: I do not know how gang members talk

OK, let me break this down for you—
① you can't possibly ~~NOT~~ know who I am,
② I could see you kicking that little kid into the street from fifty blocks back, and
③ I could SNEEZE and you would be dead

Please... ELABORATE



Cause, dawg, if you or anyone else touches me...

HAW! We all know you can't do nuthin!



I'LL SUE!



Welp! You're on your own, kid

You can't just leave me!



Kid, it's not about whether the bad guys are whipped THIS time... it's about "Over There"

... What



You see only when you say to the problem HERE you will tolerate it NO MORE, can you move the problem OVERTHERE



OVERTHERE will have to take care of its own problems, and THEN...



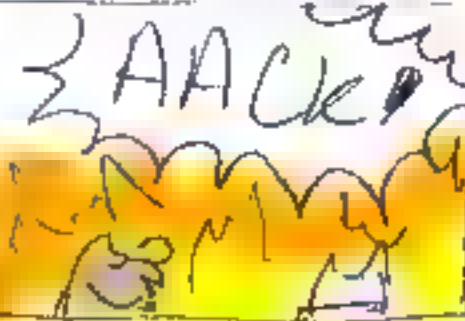
Uh...

... Okay, I could have sworn that made sense in my head... you uh...



you're supposed to...

Oh forget it! Everyone's houses get set on fire



TO BE CONCLUDED!

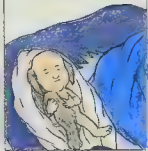
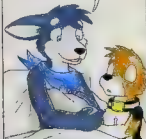
Ooo- I can't take it anymore
I need to see her

Alright, but
you're only going
to faint again

MATERNITY
WARD
←

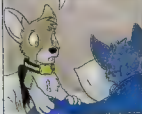


Oh King he's so
beautiful Look.

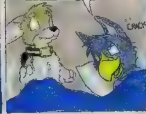


AHHHHH!!

Phew. Just a dream. Or was
it? . Hmm, usually I notice
something awry by now. I
guess it really was a dream



Awwe, had a bad
dream, hon? Here,
I'll help send you off
on a good one!



CRASHLESS'S
REA TO ME HELD

GASH





Guest comic by Rubén Castrillón, Miguel Ángel Díaz; Housepets Belongs to RICK GRIFFIN!!!



Well, if it isn't my nefarious arch-villain... and his partner-in-crime, The Cyborg! You won't get away with whatever it is you're doing!

Save us, Da-I mean Spot!

You can't stop us this time, Spot (Superdog)! Not only do we have your girlfriend, but we've also kidnapped the orphans! With them, we can finally use their orphan-ness as fuel for our orphan-powered death ray cannon

Everyone's turning comics into movies these days. I figured it was time for me to start branching out.

Well... at least you're faithful to the source material...

Great job with the costumes, Lana. How did you get Daryl's ears to fold like that?

Lots of persuasion and clothespins. Hey, you did buy temporary fur dye, right?

Hey, why does Joey get to be in this stupid movie, and not me? Nobody even bothered to offer me a role...

You didn't say anything about him being the lead villain!

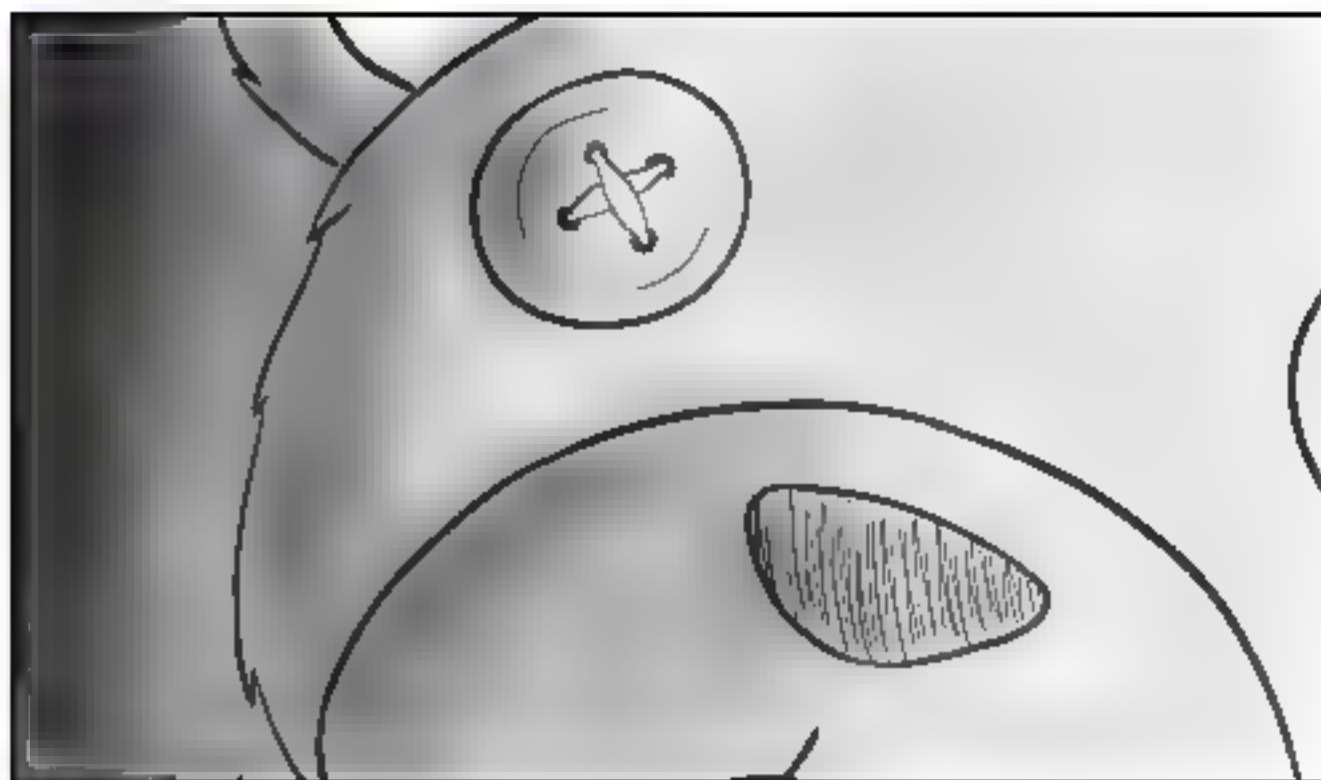
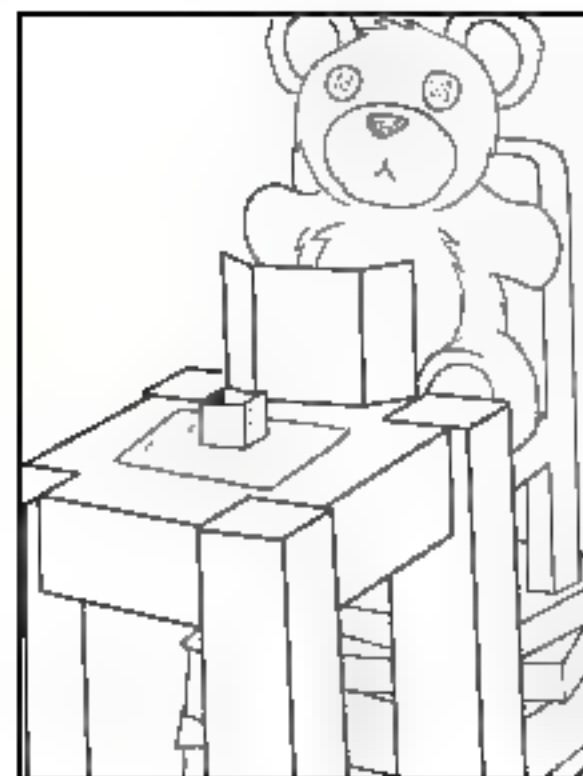
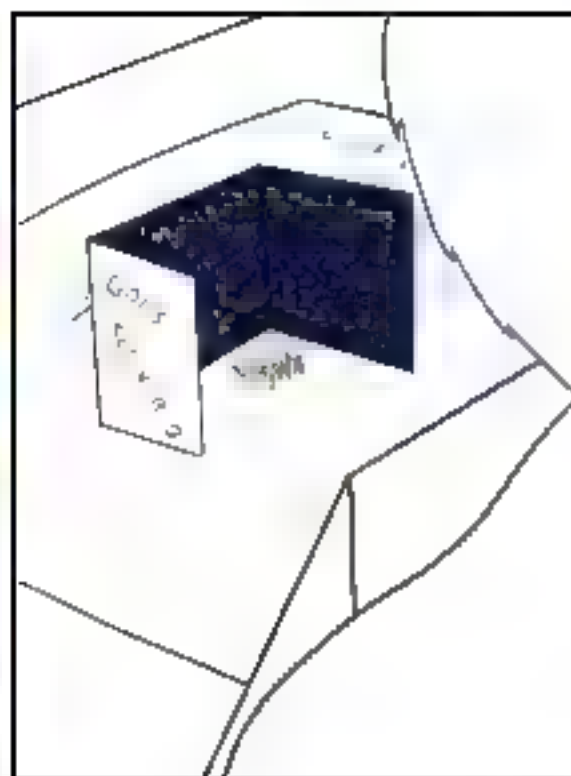
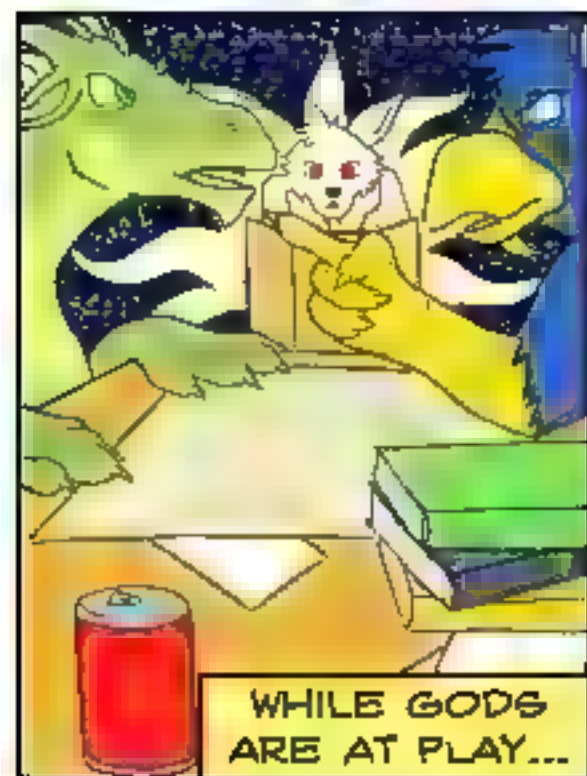
Yes we did. You turned us down because you didn't want to wear a dress. Your little brother on the other hand...

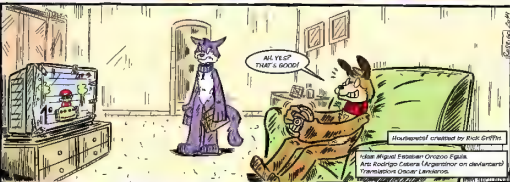
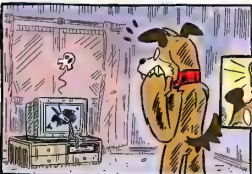
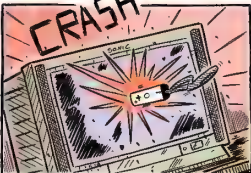
Fan comic by

KOUKI

HOUSEPETS!

BELONGS TO RICK GRIFFIN





PLEASE NOTE AS
YOU TRANSITION: HEAVEN IS NOT
A REALM OF SIGHT AND SOUND,
BUT OF MIND

THAT MEANS YOU ARE
AS YOU WILL IT—HOW YOU
PERCEIVE, AND HOW
YOU ARE PERCEIVED

WHAT ABOUT
MY APPEARANCE?

THAT'S YOUR
WILL, TOO!

Housepets!

Heaven's Not Enough
part 2

Rick Griffin

THANK GOODNESS!
NOT THAT I HATE BEING
HUMAN, BUT I MUCH PREFER
MY BODY REMAINING
CONSISTENT

PFFF

DID YOU MAKE
YOURSELF TALLER?

LOOK,
I DON'T HAVE
TO JUSTIFY ALL
MY CHOICES

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MEANWHILE . . .

COME ON! WE'RE NOT HITTING HER HARD ENOUGH! WHERE'S MY ULTIMATE ATTACK?

PooF!

THAT'S BECAUSE OF THE GAME MECHANICS-- THE ULTIMATE ATTACK CAN'T BE UNLEASHED INSTANTLY! IT WOULD RUIN THE DRAMA!

DOESN'T IT ALSO RUIN THE DRAMA IF WE COULD EASILY WIN, BUT ARE FORCED TO ARBITRARILY WAIT?

HEY! YOU'RE A WARRIOR, YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO THINK!

BEHOLD, THE GATES
OF HEAVEN!

THE GATES SWING
OUTWARD NEVER, BUT IT'S
RECOMMENDED TO STAND
BACK ON YOUR FIRST
ARRIVAL!

I NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY
HEAVEN NEEDED GATES IN
THE FIRST PLACE, I MEAN, IF
IT'S ALREADY PERF--

--ECT

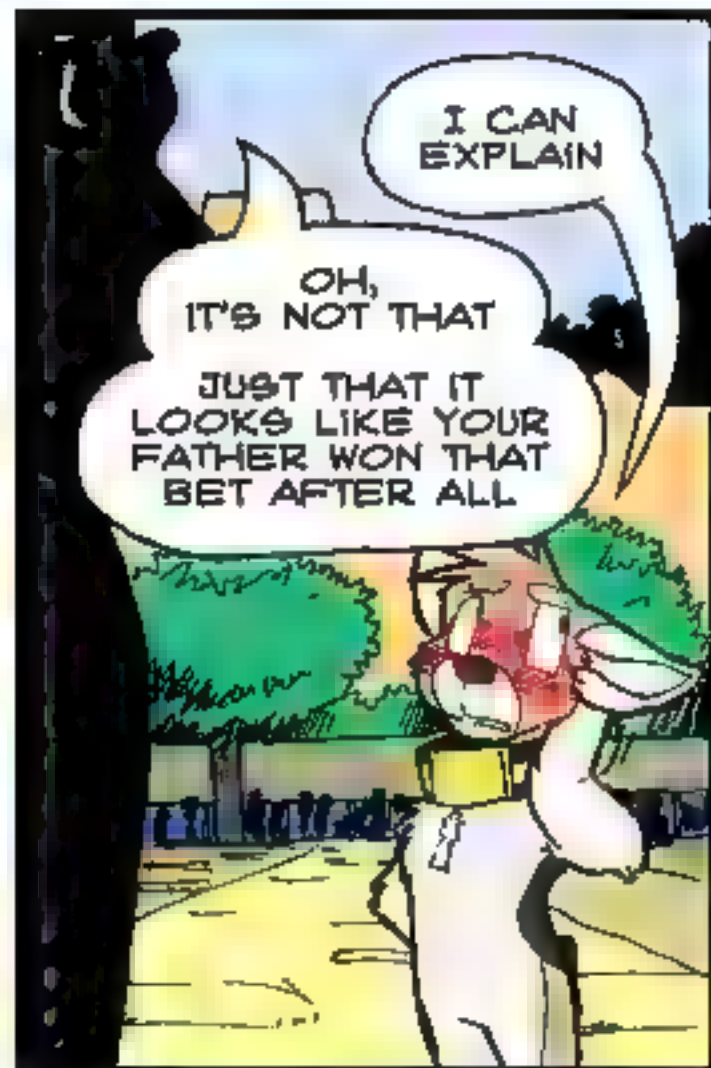
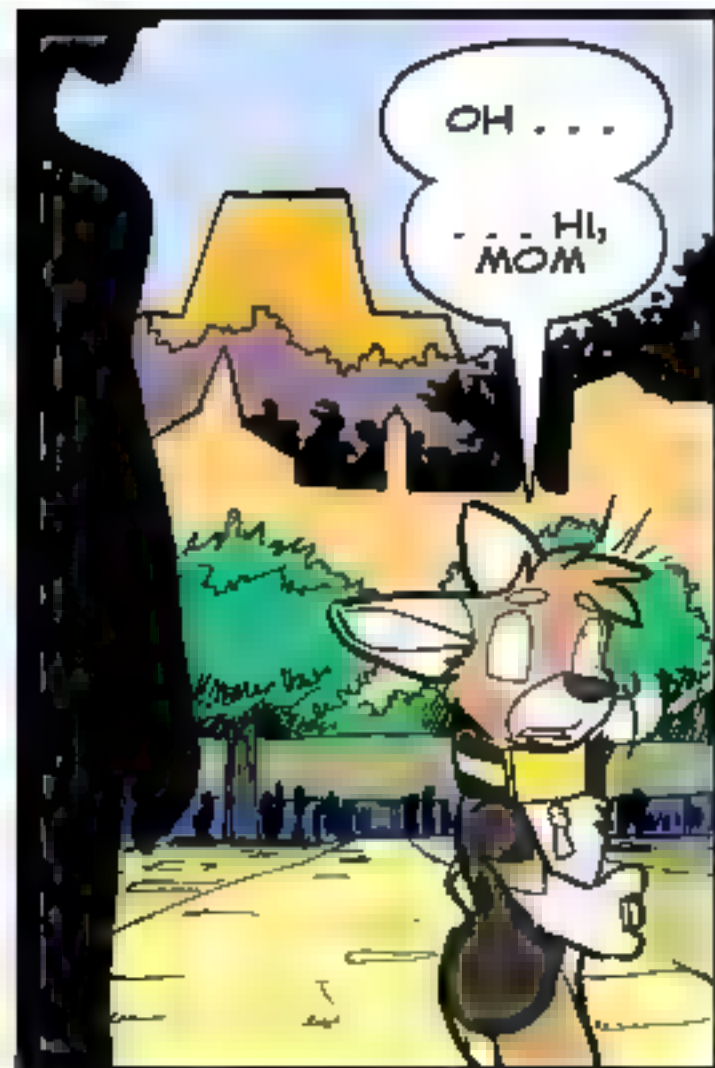
... THERE ARE A LOT
MORE PEOPLE HERE THAN
I THOUGHT THERE'D BE

MOTHER OF DOG

STRANGE HOW OFTEN
WE GET THAT COMMENT



Rick Griffin



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MEANWHILE

DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING BESIDES "JUST HIT HER"?

EXCUSE ME FOR OPTIMIZING OUR STRATEGY! IF YOU'RE BORED, PRINCESS, I NEED YOU TO TEST YOUR "TAUNT" SKILL

HOW DO I DO THAT?

YOU TAUNT HER

YOU'RE ADOPTED!

SO ARE YOU!

I DON'T THINK THAT WORKED

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ENLIGHTENED CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE

MY SWORD ROLLS A D20

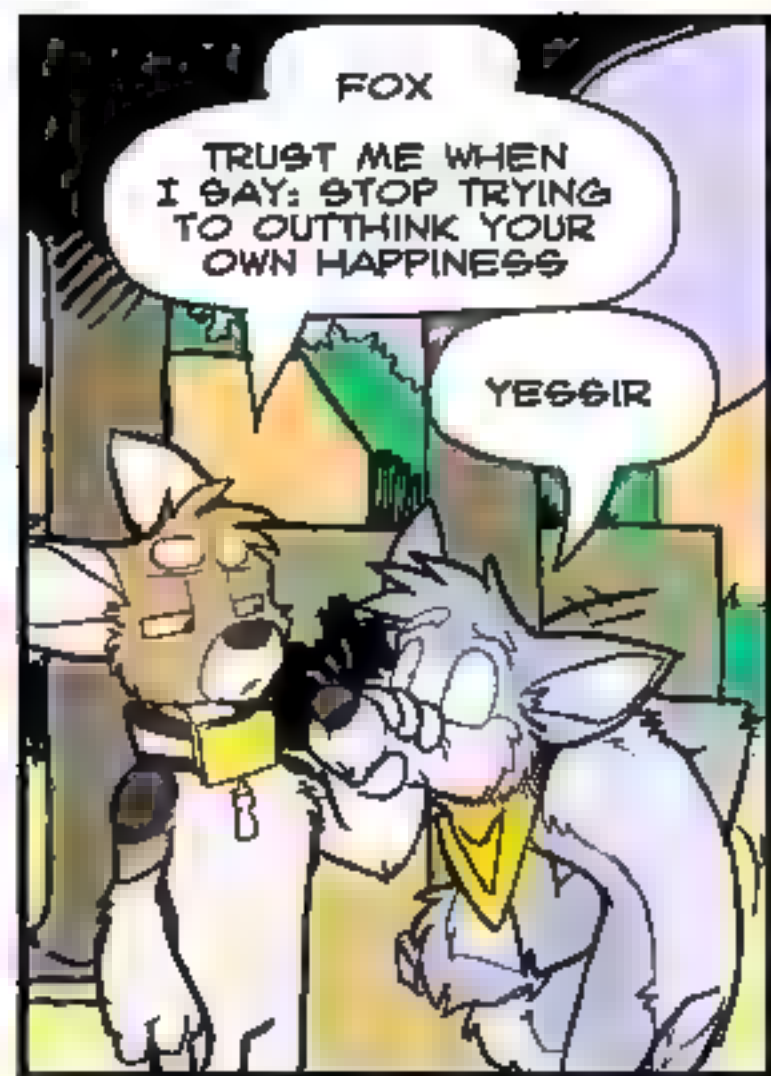
IF YOU CAN PLAY 11841

Rick Griffin

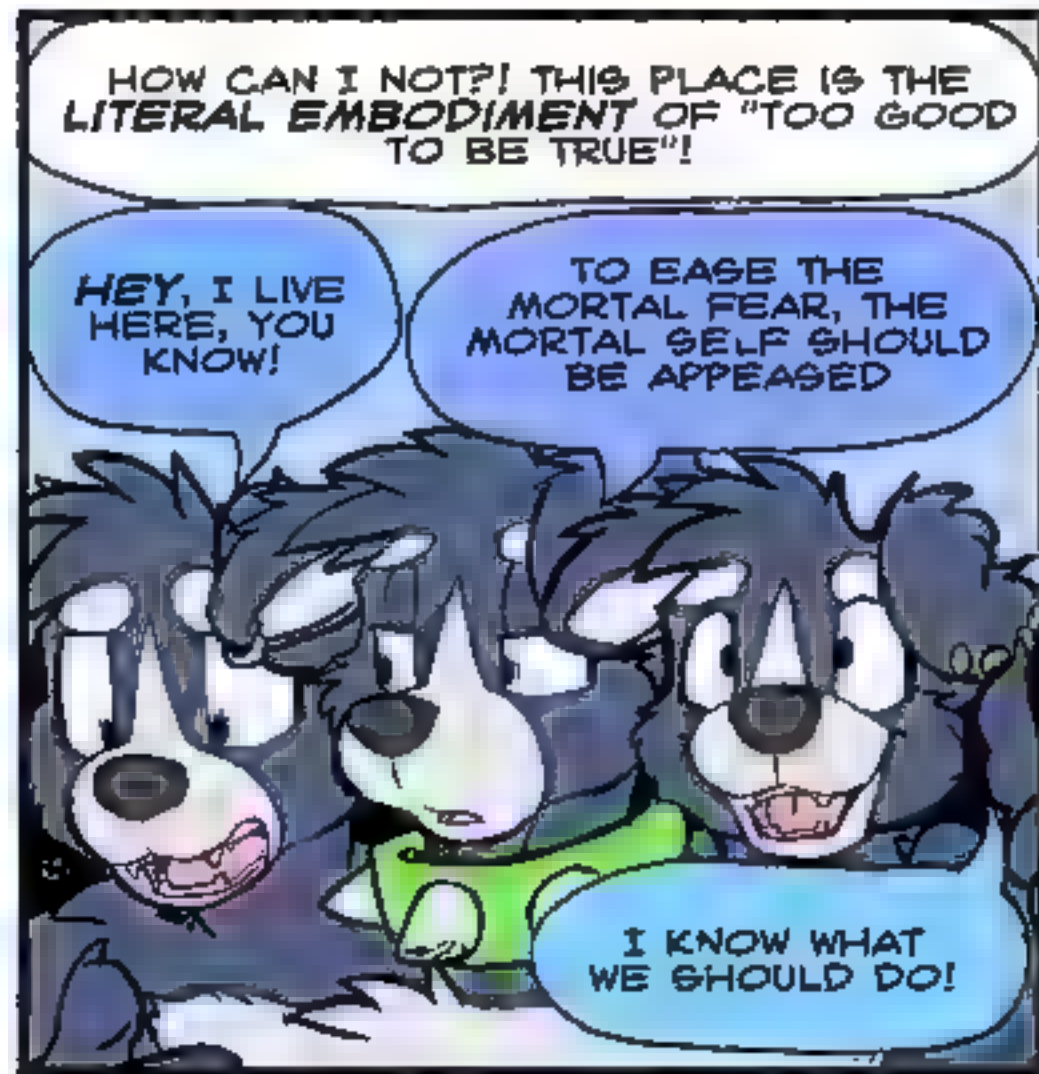
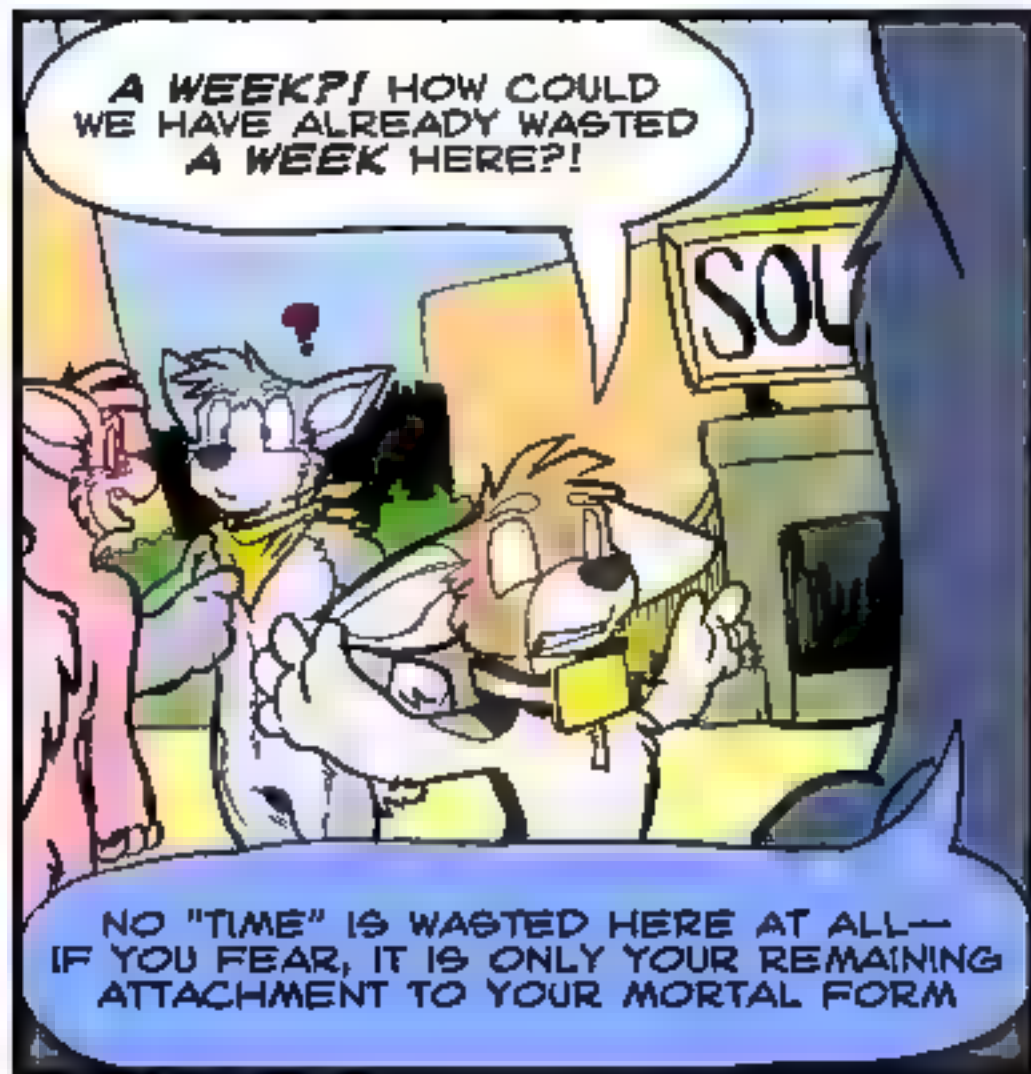
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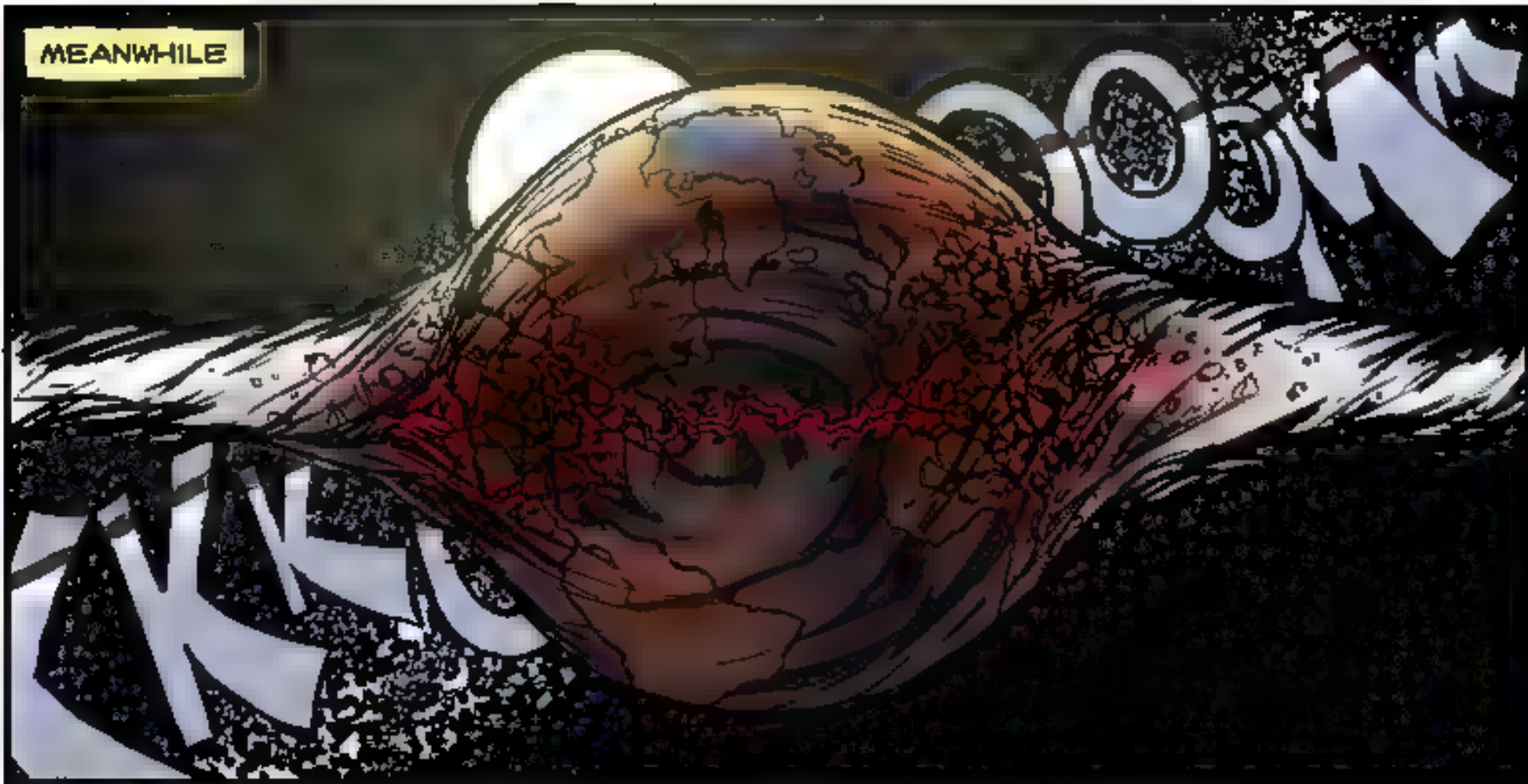
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MEANWHILE



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IS IT THAT HARD TO TAKE
YOUR OWN ADVICE?

IT'S NOT THE SAME THING!
I CAME HERE BECAUSE MY
WIFE AND YOUR COUSIN--WHO
WAS BASICALLY KIDNAPPED
MIND YOU!--MIGHT BE SAVED
BEFORE THIS STUPID GAME
IRREVERSABLY AFFECTS HER!

AND HERE I AM
SUCKING DOWN DARJEELING
AND HAVING POINTLESS
PEDICURES

SPAS DON'T MAKE
ANY SENSE, YOU CAN'T GET
"MORE SERENE" IN HEAVEN

YOU COULD STAND
TO ...

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED
TO MEAN!?

LOOK, I AM WORRIED
ABOUT BAILEY TOO, BUT
YOU'VE DONE NOTHING BUT
WORRY FOR THE LAST
SIX MONTHS STRAIGHT--

WE'VE BEEN HERE
SIX MONTHS?!?!?

GIVE OR TAKE A FEW
WEEKS, I DON'T RECALL
HOW LONG WE SPENT AT
THE WATER PARK ...

WE CAN TAKE YOU TO BAHAMUT
WHenever YOU LIKE, BUT . . .

YOU'RE CUTTING YOUR
STAY AWFULLY SHORT

I'M DONE!

FOX CAN STAY
AS LONG AS HE LIKES,
HE DESERVES IT

I DON'T

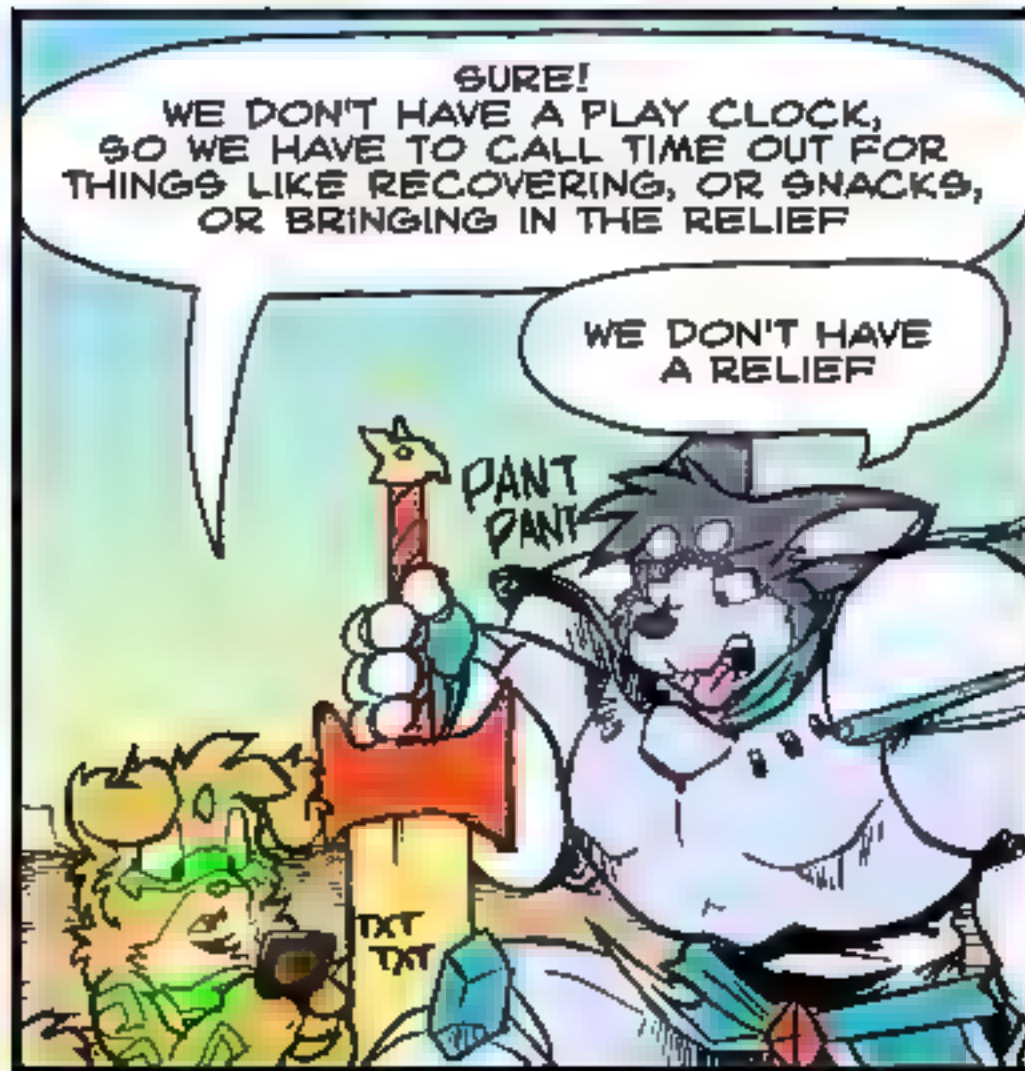
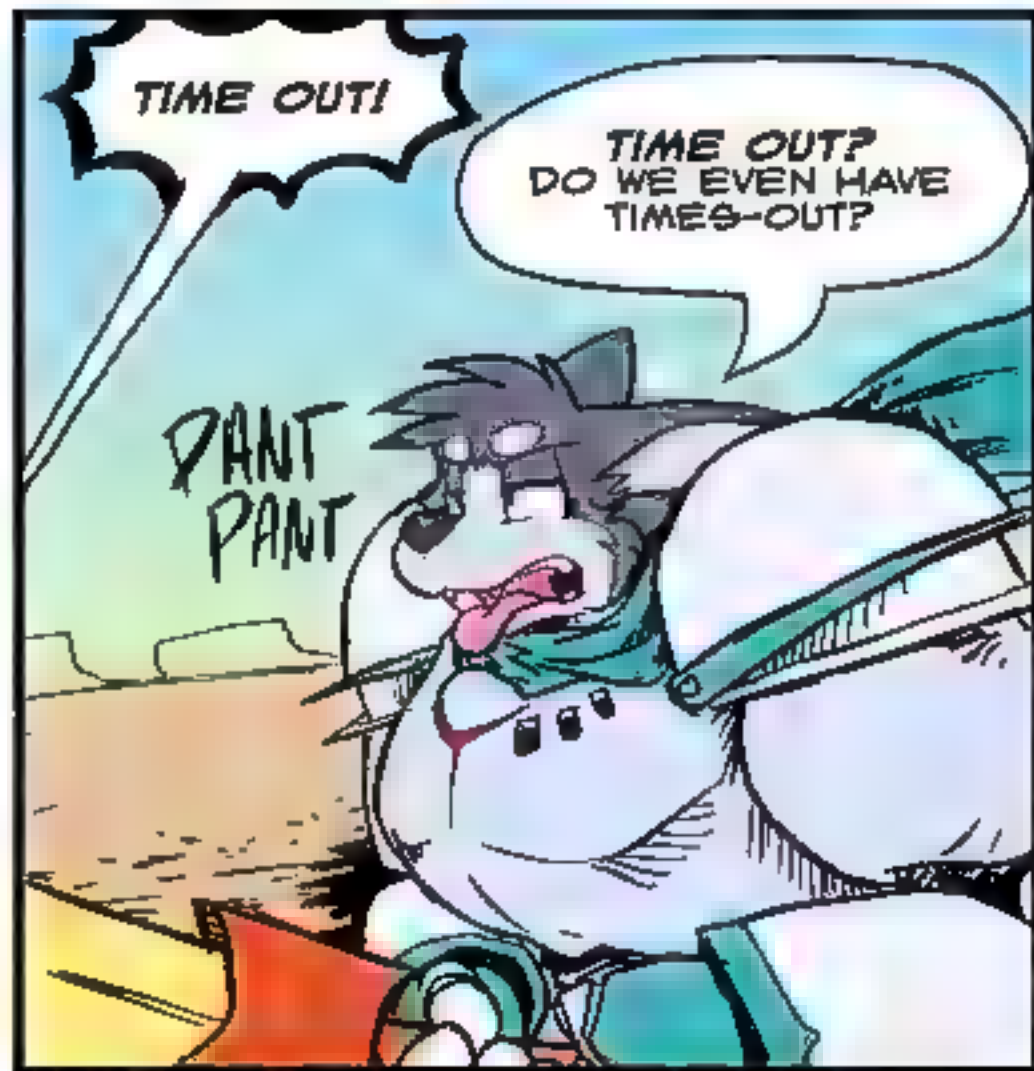
I CAN'T STAY HERE
WHEN THE PERSON I LOVE
IS SUFFERING

KING, NO TEARS IN HEAVEN!

I'M NOT CRYING, I'M NOT . . .
BUT WHAT'S THE POINT OF
HEAVEN IF IT'S JUST GOING
TO KEEP REMINDING ME OF
WHAT I'VE LOST?

BECAUSE IT'S GOOD TO
RELAX WHEN YOU'RE AS
TENSE AS A SIX-MILE WIDE
BALL OF RUBBER BANDS

AND WHOSE FAULT
IS THAT?



REMEMBER, HE IS INFINITE
OF FACULTY AND YOU ARE
NOT

GREAT . . .

HAVE
FUN!

. . . BELOVED

I . . . I FEEL
I SHOULD BE MORE NERVOUS
THAN I AM

THAT IS A COMMON
REACTION--FEAR THREADS
YOU TO YOUR MORTAL BODY
BUT YOU ARE NOT IN TROUBLE
SPEAK WHAT IS ON YOUR MIND

WELCOME . . .

I HATE YOU!

INTERESTING,
MOST MORTALS I HAVE
TO COAX TO THAT POINT

HOW CAN YOU SAY YOU'RE
THE GOOD GUYS WHEN
WHAT YOU'VE ALLOWED A
GANG OF CELESTIAL PUNKS
TO ROB ME OF MY DIGNITY
AND STEAL AWAY MY WIFE?!

MANY THINGS MUST
BE PERMISSIBLE—

I DON'T WANT THIS TO
BE PERMISSIBLE!
PUNISH THEM!

I HAVE MY RIGHTS!

KING MILTON!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PUNISHED
FOR ALL THE EVIL YOU YOURSELF
HAVE DONE, THE PEOPLE YOU HAVE
HURT, THE IRREVERSIBLE DAMAGE
YOU HAVE CAUSED?

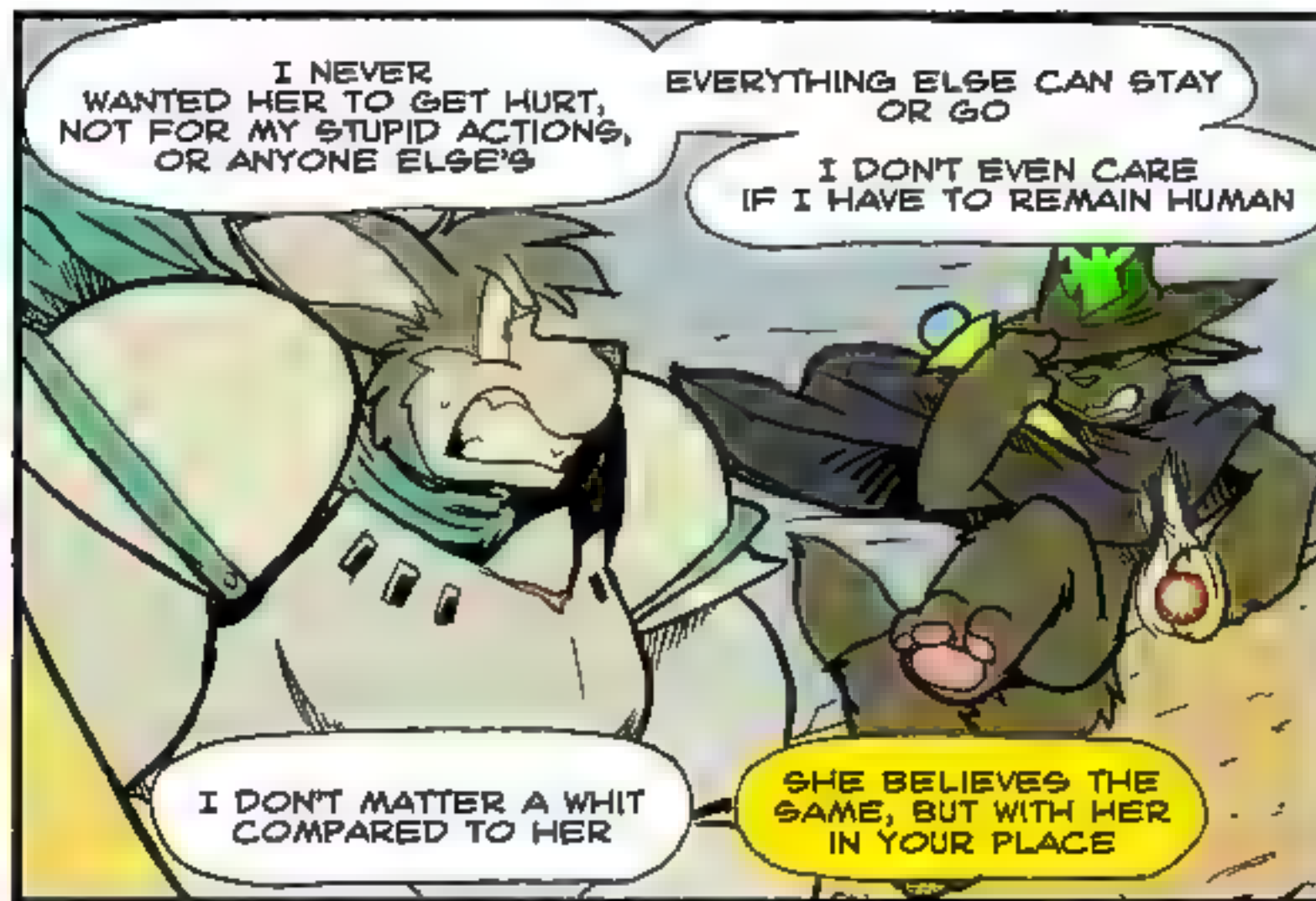
NO

THEN DO NOT
BE SO QUICK
TO JUDGE

GOODNESS IS NOT ABOUT
FOLLOWING "THE RULES"
ANY MORE THAN FAITH IS
ABOUT BELIEVING WHATEVER
YOU ARE TOLD

I'D STILL RATHER GET
EVERYTHING I EVER WANTED
AND NOT WORRY ABOUT THIS
MORALITY CRAP

BELIEVE ME,
I KNOW THAT FEELING



IF YOU'RE NOT GOING
TO DO ANYTHING--WHAT AM
I SUPPOSED TO DO?!

WH--IS THAT IT?!
ARE YOU LITERALLY SAYING
"THE POWER WAS INSIDE
YOU ALL ALONG"?

I HAVE NOT SAID NOTHING WILL BE DONE
ONLY THAT SUCH MATTERS ARE NOT AS
ONE-SIDED AS NEEDS RAINING FIERY
METEORS FROM THE SKIES
YOU, BELOVED, ARE ALL THAT'S REQUIRED!

BELOVED, THE THINGS YOU
HOLD, IF YOU BUT HAD THE
FORESIGHT, YOU COULD EASILY
DIVERT THE FLOW OF HISTORY

THIS PUTS THE TASK AT HAND
WELL WITHIN YOUR REACH

SO HAVE COURAGE AND
SEIZE IT!

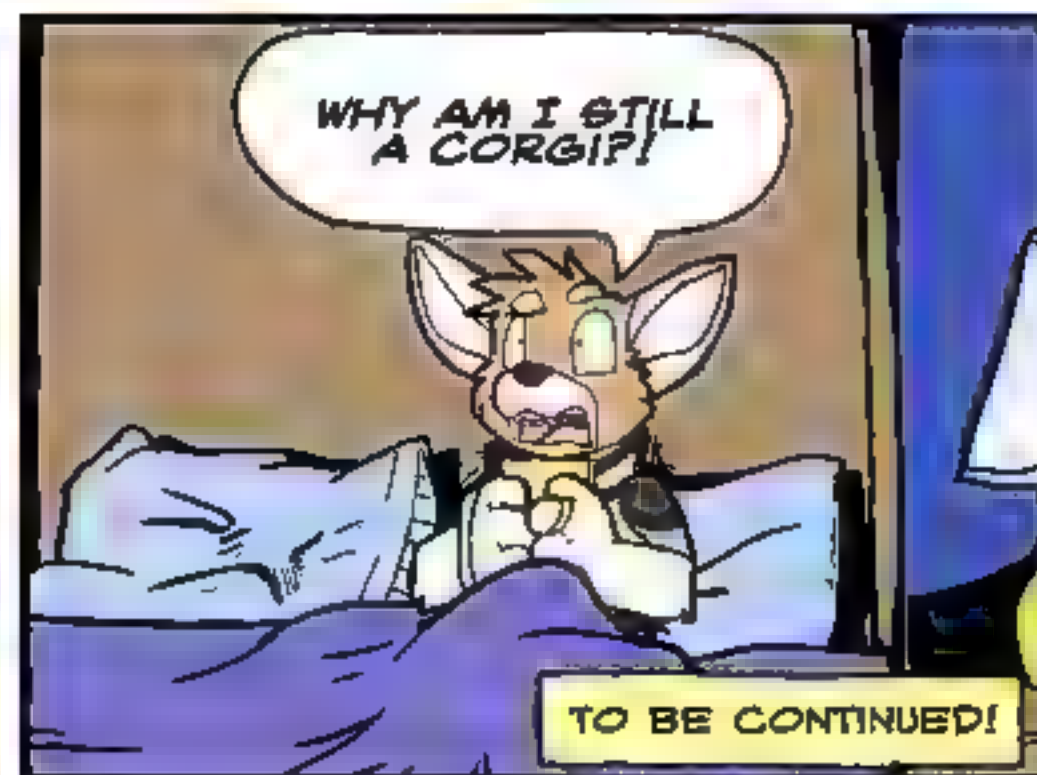
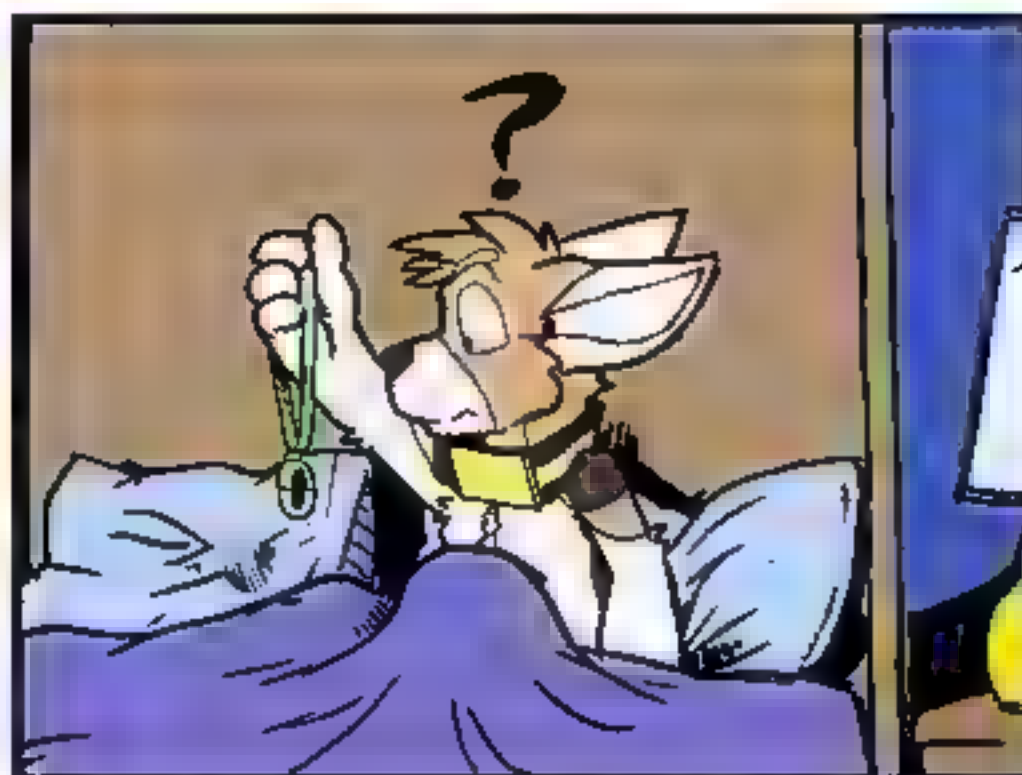
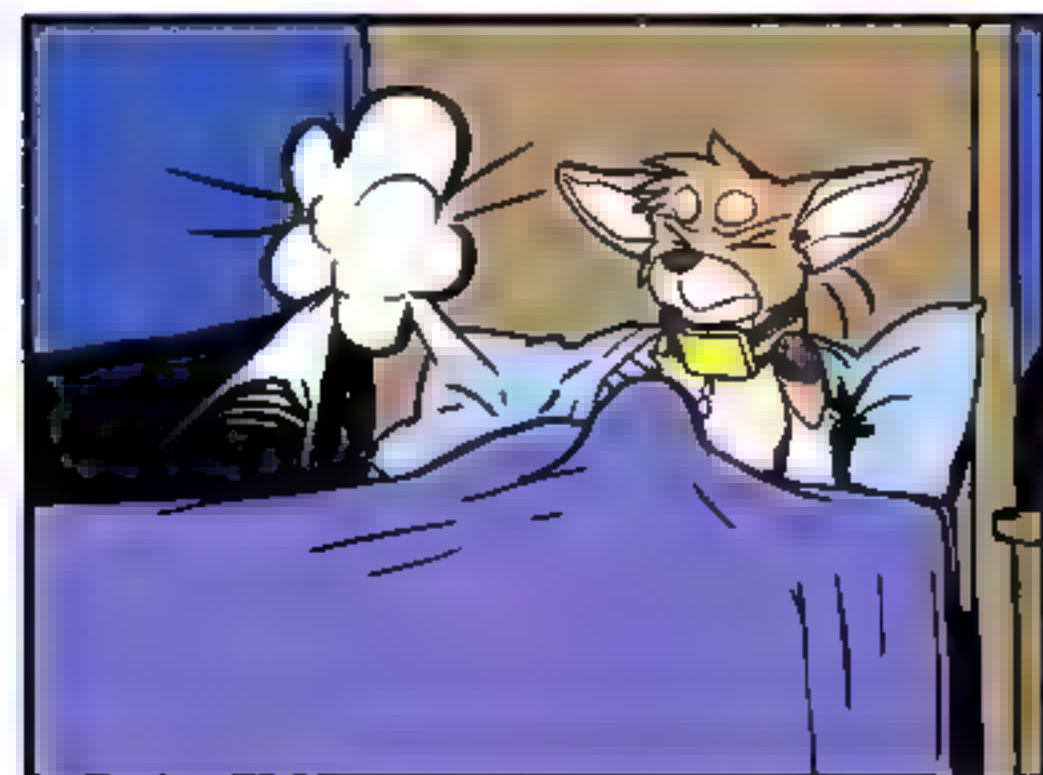
THAT DOESN'T
MEAN I KNOW
WHAT TO DO!

FOR YOUR SAKE, BECAUSE
YOU SOUGHT MY HELP,
I WILL GIVE YOU
ONE LAST GIFT

WHAT IS IT?

YOU WILL KNOW

WHEN YOU WAKE UP



SPO [Continues to be P.B.S. (Peanut) GROUNDED? (part 2)]

We've located Spot again, sir

Finally! Why didn't the activity Monitor pick up anything for a whole week?

Ah, finally out of Kansas



Thanks to our top-secret intel, we've discovered that Spot is at a severe disadvantage!

Today's the day Spot rules the day he ever came across



But boss, what about the Justice House? Also, am I seriously your only Operations Specialist

Budget's tight. Also, that's been accounted for!



Spot does HALF of all our rescue operations—well, except for the Viridian Lamp, but he's not as popular so he doesn't



We can over whelm them if we strike now! Using my...



You could afford an orbital Death Ray but only one person to fire it, huh?

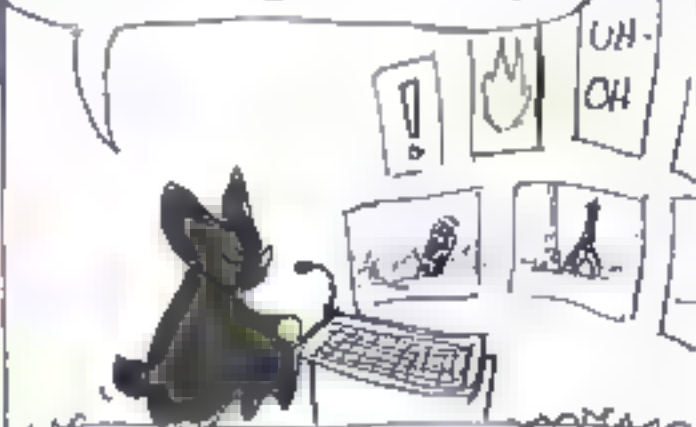
Stop Complaining unless you want to be replaced by a robot

SO THEN???

This is fine. I am fine with this.



Spot, come in Spot!
this is Bat-Bat!



Uh, I can tell who it is,
Super-hearing and all.
..... Over.

Multiple fires have
broken out all over the
world! We need you
to preserve the most
important-looking
landmarks!



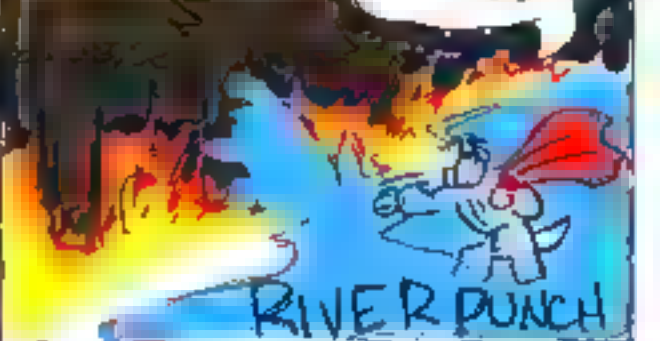
Yup, already on it.
Clearing this very important
highway in Colorado of
landslide rubble.



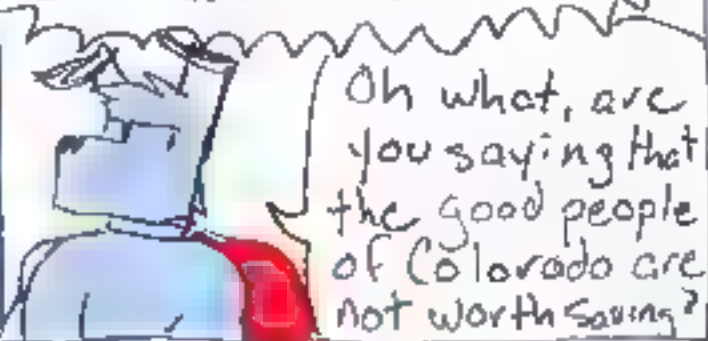
Spot! We NEED
you in Paris like
ten seconds ago!



Can't talk Wild Fires
in Colorado. Savin' lives



SPOT! There are more
people in the world than in
just Colorado!



I'm SAYING that
Colorado is a very
low-risk area—
leave the rescue
operations to the
authorities



I like a SENSIBLE
PERSON

I'm sure this baby I
saved would be appalled
to know Bat-Bat wanted
him to die horribly

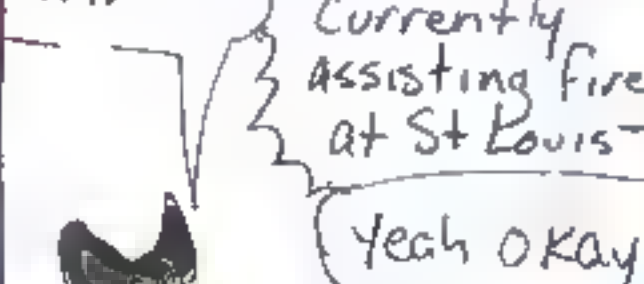


WE ARE NOT HAVING
THIS ARGUMENT NOW

SIGH...



Regular Hawk, come
in!



Listen, I am beginning
to suspect this is all
a diversion.



I believe Spot
may be under
evil mind-cont-
rol. Investigate



I'm
on
it!



Uh, guys, I CAN hear you
Super-hearing and all

And so, the REGULAR HAWK,
flew to Colorado



JOEY

Spot! Come up here
and explain your-
self!



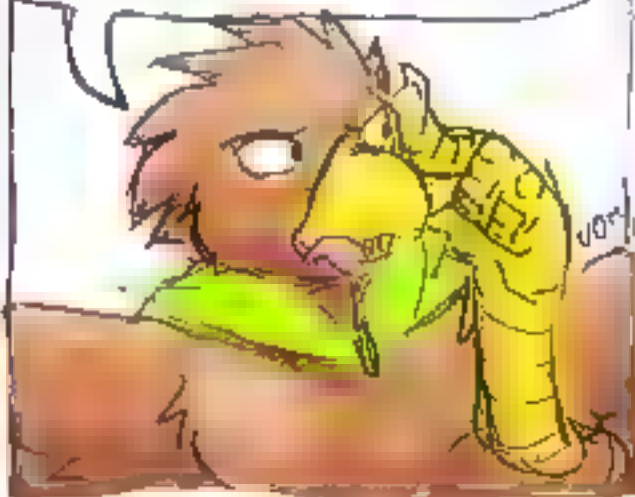
JOEY

Yeah? Why don't you
come down HERE?



JOEY

Regular Hawk to
base, Spot is being
a total butt, over



JOEY

SLAP



JOEY

OH THAT'S L
IT! GET BACK
HERE!

DROB

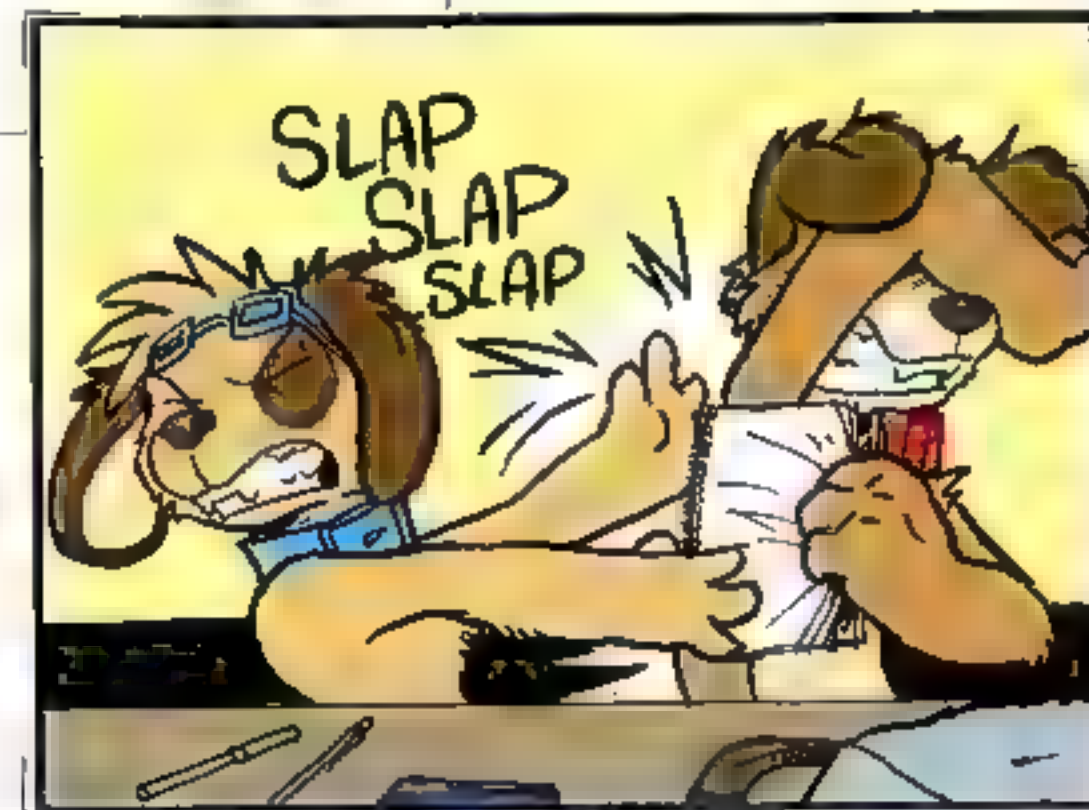
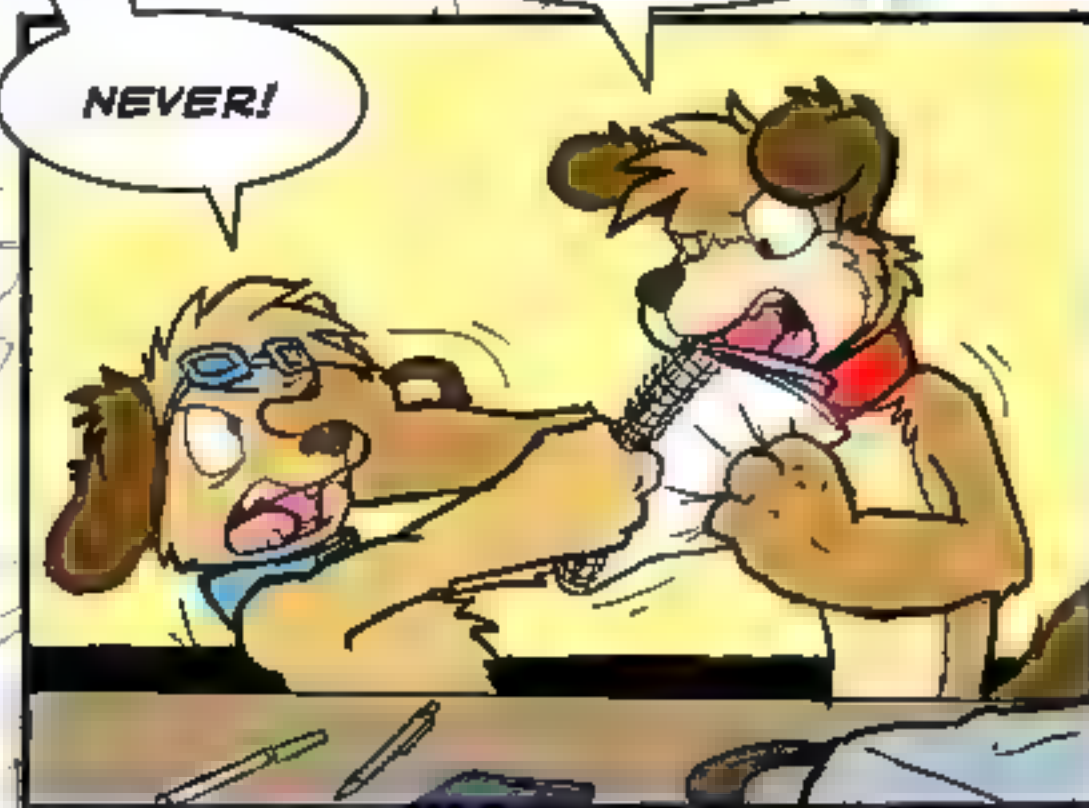


JOEY

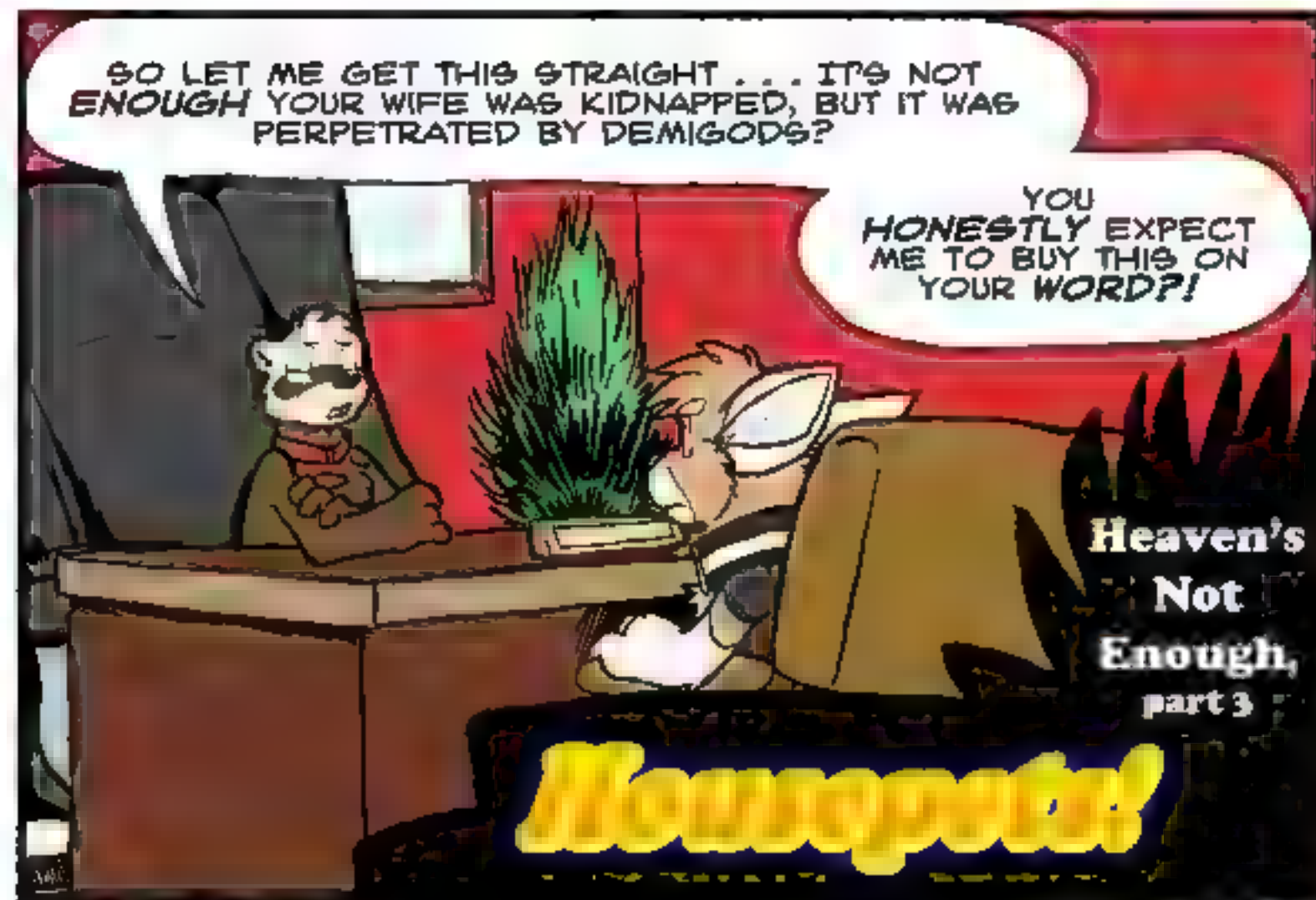
STOPPIT! THE
DEAL WAS FREE
DRAWINGS IF I GET MY
OWN CHARACTER!

THAT DOESN'T MEAN
HE COULD ACTUALLY BEAT
UP SPOT! AND STOP
SIGNING YOUR NAME
EVERY PANEL!

NEVER!



To be continued, or not



Rick Griffin



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I'M SORRY, I DON'T REALLY
HAVE MORE INFORMATION THAN
THAT—

DON'T WORRY, THIS ISN'T
MY FIRST RODEO WHERE
IT COMES TO DEMIGODS

FORTUNATELY, I HAVE A
SECRET WEAPON

YOU'VE BEEN USING YOUR VAST
RESOURCES DEVELOPING WEAPONS
WHICH CAN CHALLENGE THE GODS
THEMSELVES?!

WHAT? NO, THAT'S ALMOST
CERTAINLY IMPOSSIBLE

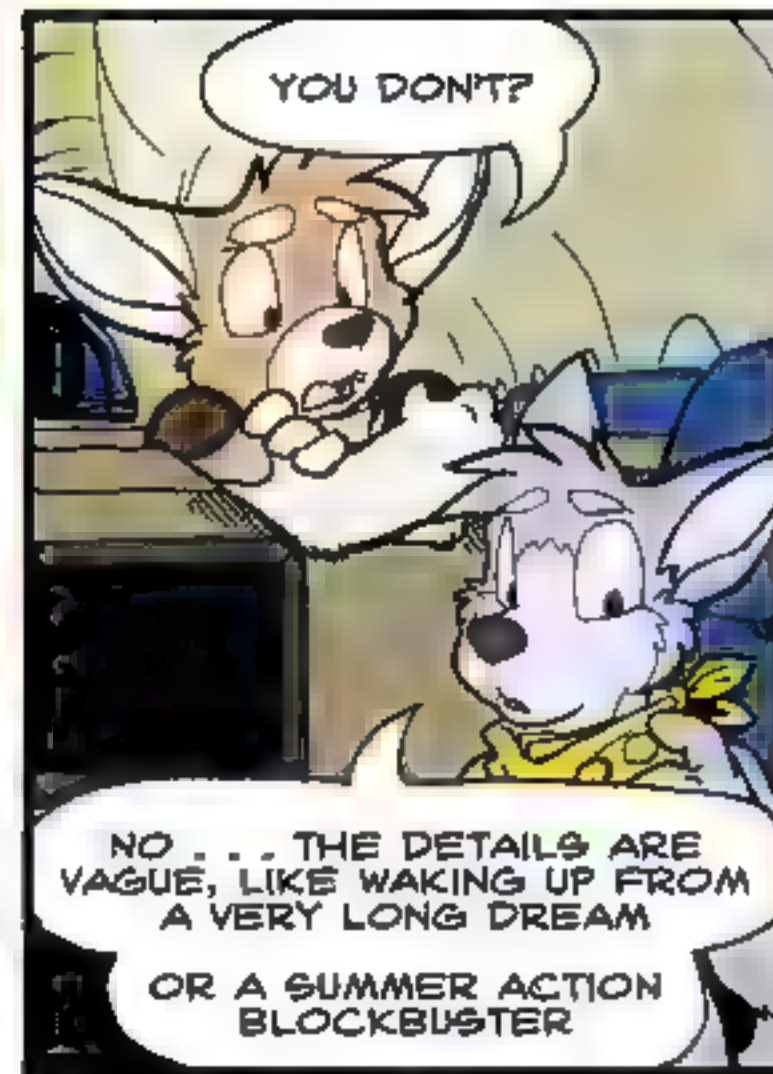
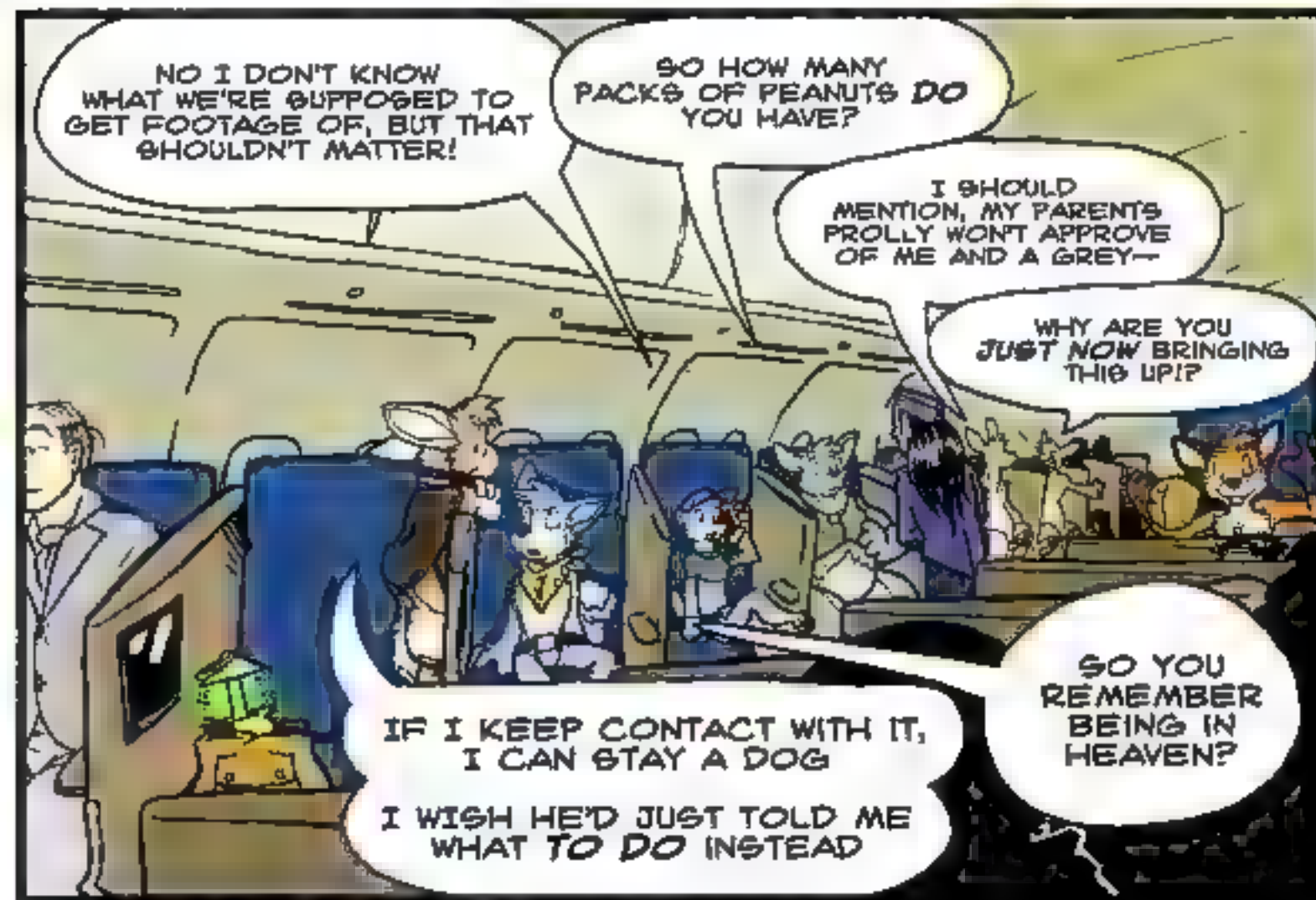
I'M NOT THAT INSANE

OH . . .

KARISHAD, ON THE OTHER
HAND, IS THAT INSANE

GUESS WHAT! YOU'LL
NEVER BELIEVE WHAT
TAROT'S BEEN UP TO!

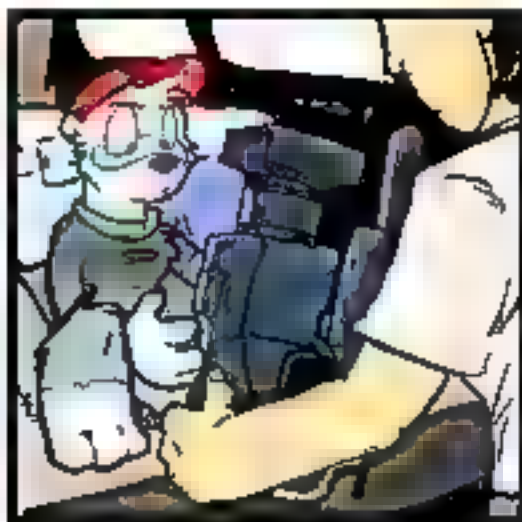
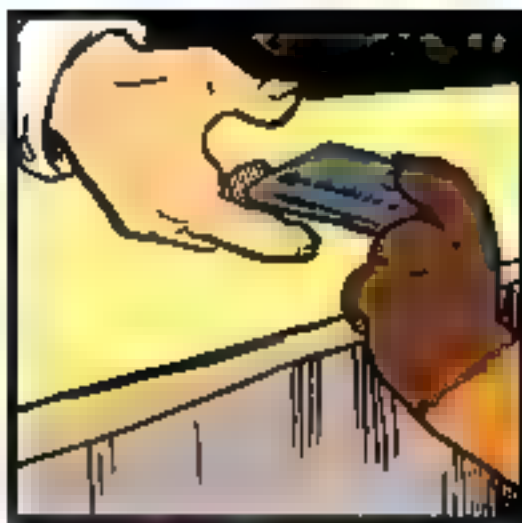
TXT
TXT



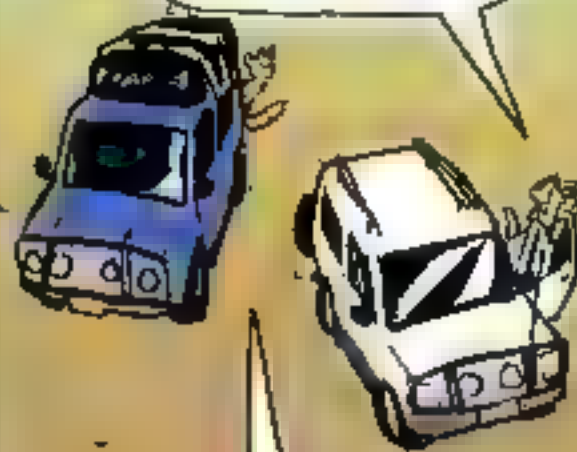
PERTH, AUSTRALIA

YOU'RE THE ONE WITH ALL THE INFORMATION... GET US TO THE CLASH OF THE TITANS OR WHATEVER!

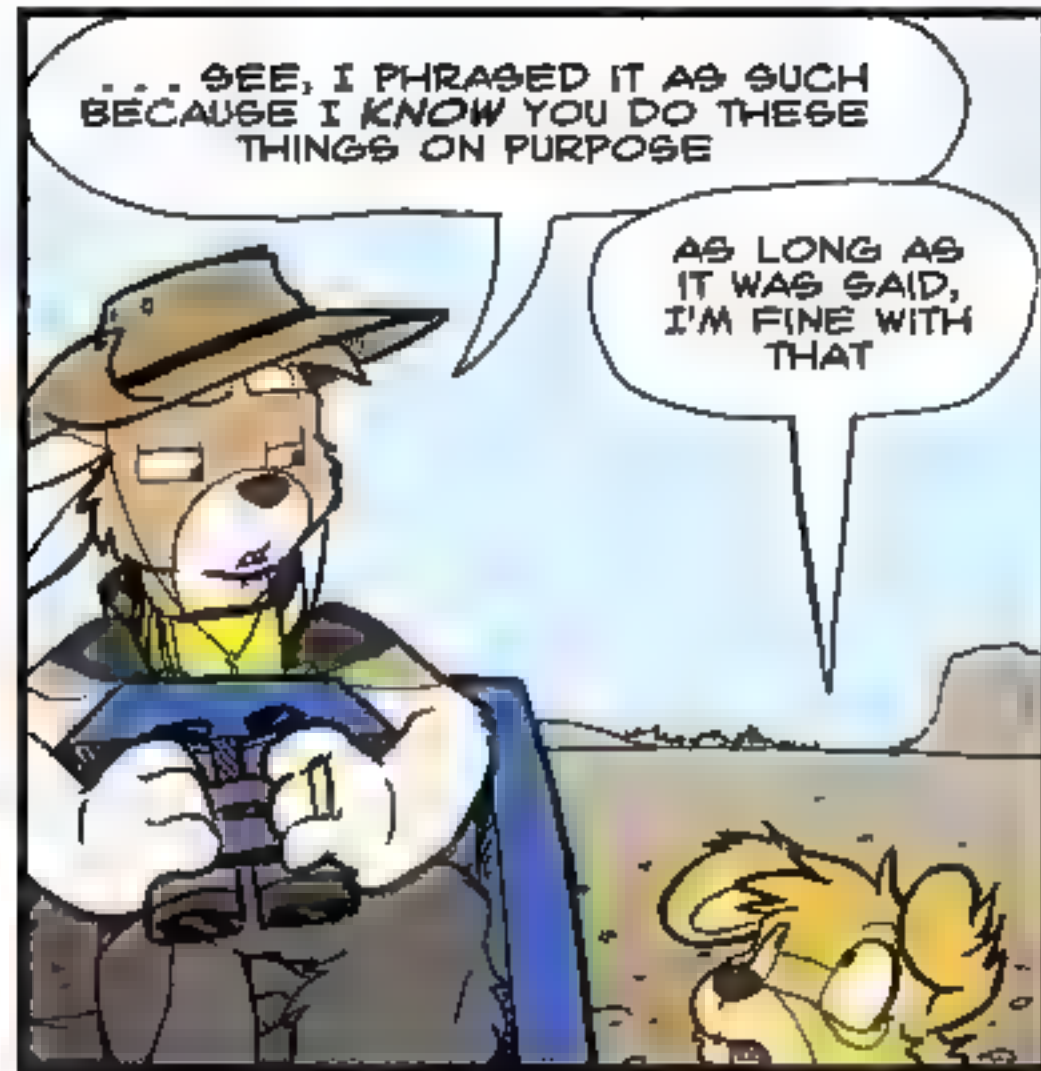
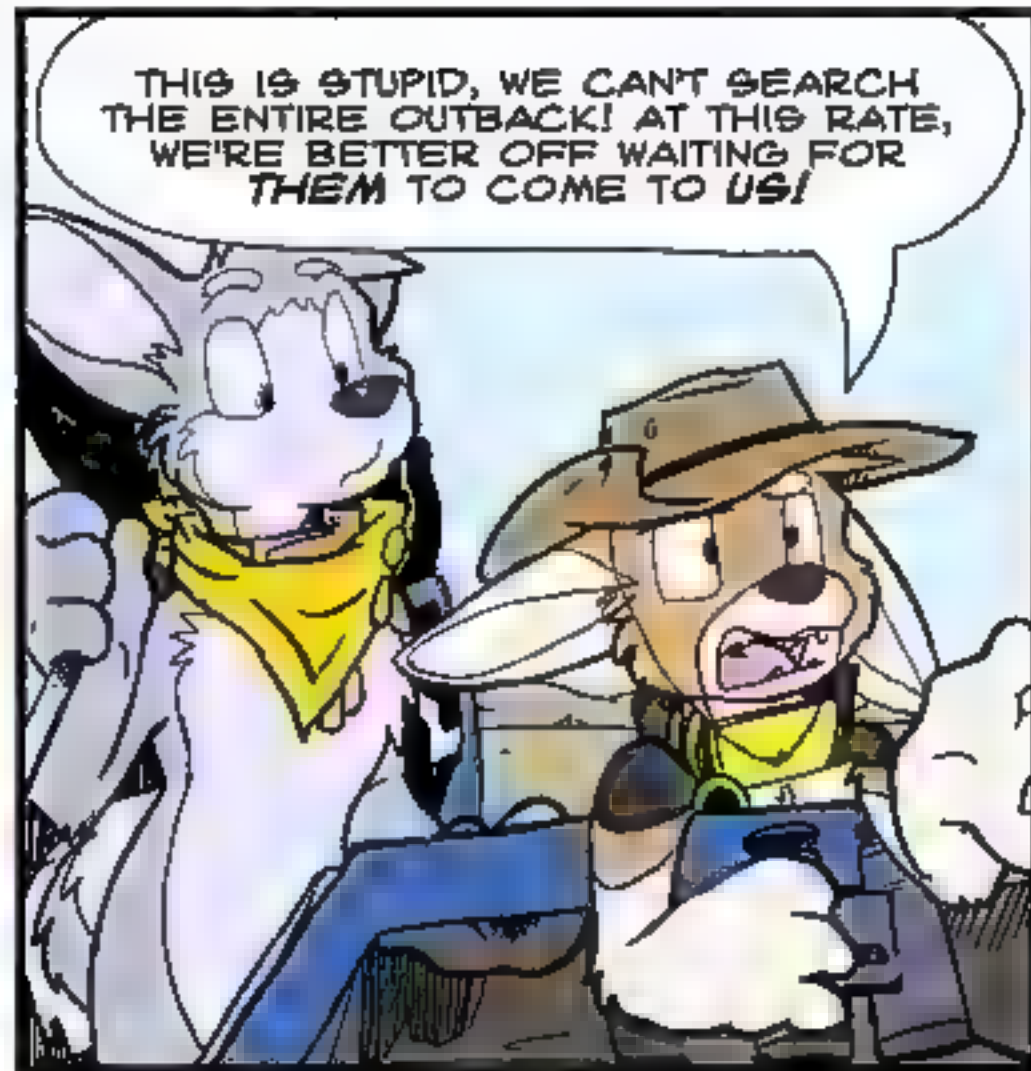
NO PROBLEM! WITH KEENE'S CREDIT CARD, ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE!



AAAAND WE'RE LOST
NICE GOING



IT'S
JUST A GIANT ISLAND!
WHEN WE HIT OCEAN, WE
KNOW WE'VE BEEN GOING
THE WRONG WAY AND WE
CAN TRY AGAIN!



SO, WHY ARE YOU STILL
A CORGI?

YOU MEAN
THE OMNISCIENT
TAROT DOESN'T KNOW
SOMETHING!?

YES, HAVEN'T YOU FIGURED
OUT WHAT THIS THING IS?
LESSER CELESTIAL BEINGS
CANNOT SEE YOUR ACTIONS
WHEN YOU ARE NEAR IT

REALLY?
WAS THAT ALL
PART OF THIS
"PLAN"?

YES, BUT IT WASN'T--

WELL TOO BAD, BECAUSE
I HAVE A PLAN OF MY OWN!
AND YOU'RE GOING TO GO
ALONG WITH IT OR SO HELP
ME I'LL DO SOMETHING I
MIGHT REGRET!

IS IT
"CRY AND BEG"?

PSYCHICS SUCK THE
TENSION OUT OF
EVERYTHING

LIMIT BREAK! INFINITY SWORD!
CALLING OUT . . . ATTACKS!

MAGIC(K)AL PRETTY
HOWITZER FIRE!!

NO!
NO MORE
FIGHTING!

KINGP!

CANCEL

KING, I LOVE YOU,
BUT I HAVE TO FINISH THIS
FOR YOU!

I DON'T CARE!
THIS ENDS NOW!

ALSO, HOW DID
YOU EVEN GET HERE?

THAT'S NOT
IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW!

ONE RUSHED EXPLANATION
LATER (INCLUDING THE PART
ABOUT HOW HE FOUND THEM,
THE LANTERN THING, ETC..)



STOP FIGHTING?!
WHY?!

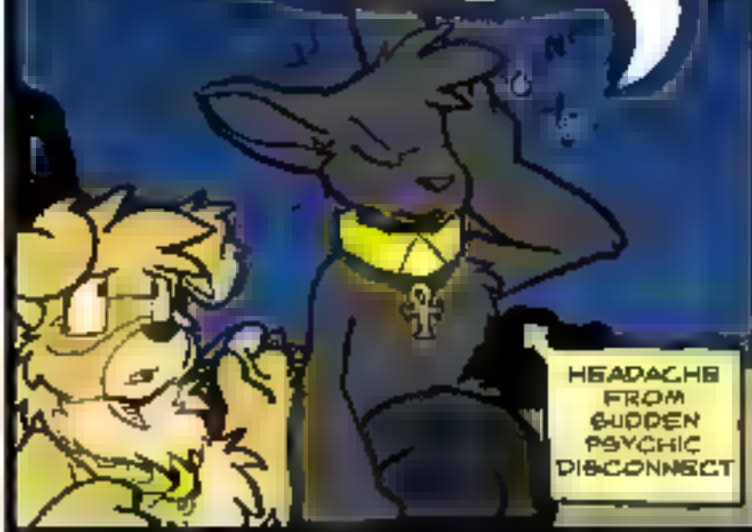
YOU'RE TAKING THIS
TOO SERIOUSLY! I KNOW IT'S
NOT REALLY A BATTLE OF
GOOD VERSUS EVIL!

BUT THE ONLY THING AT
STAKE IS THE EGOS OF
TWO PETULANT SUPERBEINGS!
WHO CARES IF WE PLAY
ALONG OR NOT?!

SABRINA . . .

YOU ARE AWARE
OF HOW TERRIBLE
THE WORLD IS, RIGHT?!

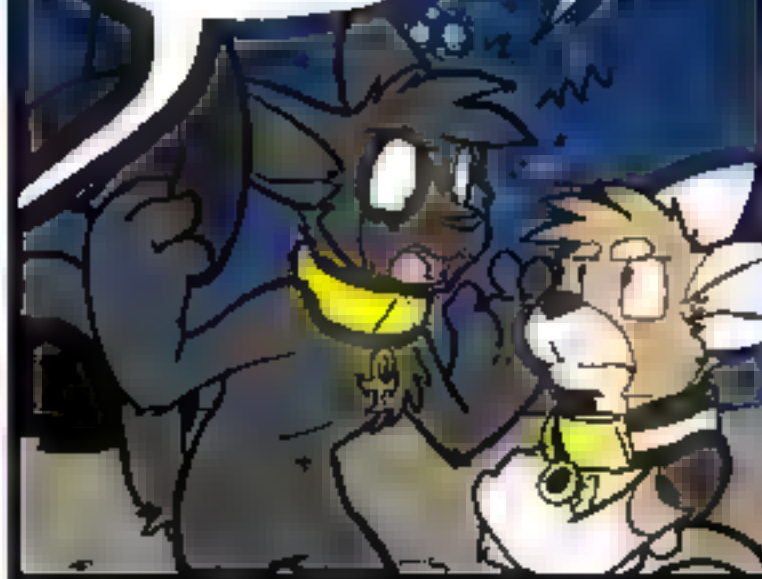
I JUST WANTED THE
POWER TO MAKE THE
WORLD BETTER! IS
THAT TOO MUCH
TO ASK?!



HEADACHE
FROM
SUDDEN
PSYCHIC
DISCONNECT

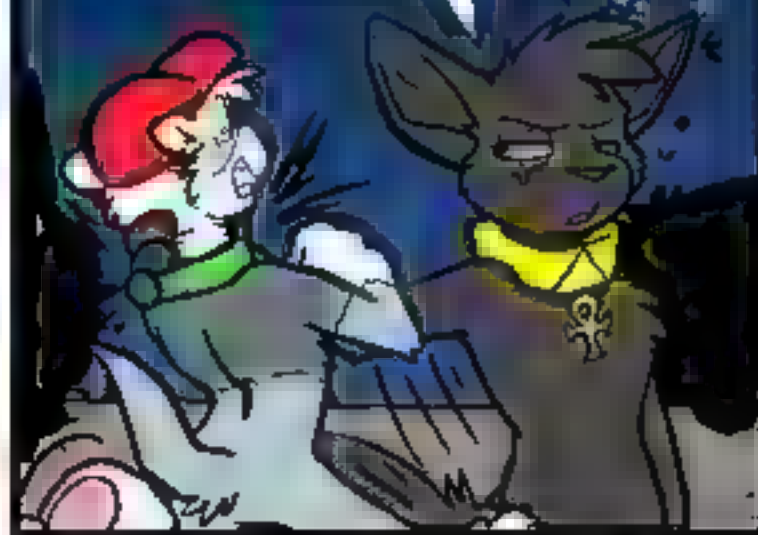
YOU'RE NOT EVEN
SUPPOSED TO BE HERE!
YOU DON'T GET TO MAKE
MY CHOICES FOR ME!

OKAY, CUT!
WE DIDN'T FLY
OUT HERE FOR
YOU TO BE ALL
TALKY!



YOU HAVE TO ACTUALLY
DO--GHYK

I'M IN A STATE OF
EMOTIONAL FLUX, SO
SHUT UP UNLESS YOU
WANT TO EXPERIENCE
A **SECOND** EXCEPTION
TO MY PACIFISM



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YOU KNOW, IT'S GREAT
THAT WE'VE BEEN PROMISED
REWARDS FOR PLAYING THIS
GAME

THE SOLE CONDITION
BEING THAT A FEW PEOPLE
GET HURT

I GUESS IT'S
BETTER THAN
THOUSANDS

BUT ISN'T IT
A FALSE CHOICE?

THE REWARDS THEY'VE
DANGLED IN FRONT OF OUR
NOSES ARE SO TANTALIZING,
WE CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE LIFE
WITHOUT THEM ANYMORE

POWER AND LOVE--
TO GIVE OUR LIVES MEANING
ONLY TO PULL IT AWAY

I DON'T WANT
TO GIVE IT UP

BUT IF THE ALTERNATIVE
IS TO TEAR OURSELVES
APART JUST TO GRASP WHAT
SHOULD BE GIVEN WITHOUT
STRINGS

IT'S BETTER
THAT WE GIVE IT UP

ACTUALLY AS PER THE
RULES, WE CAN'T GIVE UP
THE POWER

WOULD YOU STOP
UNDERCUTTING ME?!

IF WE FORFEIT OUR ROLES AS AVATARS,
ALL THAT HAPPENS IS THAT THE POWER
GOES TO SOMEONE ELSE

BUT ONLY IF WE
OFFICIALLY FORFEIT

ARE YOU SAYING WE JUST
KEEP THE POWER, BUT STOP
USING IT?

\$\$VIBRATE\$\$

YES--AT WHICH POINT, NEITHER
PETE NOR DRAGON CAN DO ANYTHING
BECAUSE THEY CAN'T FORCE US
TO ACT

I THINK,
ANYWAY

KARI, I'M RIGHT
HERE, YOU DON'T NEED
TO TEXT ME!

YEAH, EVEN THOUGH
I NEEDED TO HAVE DRAGON
CONTROL MY ACTIONS DIRECTLY,
IT WAS ALWAYS ON THE CONDITION
I COULD STOP HER AT
ANY TIME

EW! YOU LET HER
MIND CONTROL YOU?!

WHAT! IT'S
AN INTERESTING
EXPERIENCE!

WHY DO YOU
JUST "THINK"?

YOU REMEMBER THE NON-INTERFERENCE
RULE, WHERE I WAS NOT ALLOWED TO HELP
NOR HINDER YOU?

TECHNICALLY THAT RULE WAS ONLY FOR
DRAGON'S ACTIONS AND PETE'S ACTIONS

TECHNICALLY, THEY CAN ONLY MAKE
US ACT WHEN WE AGREE TO THAT ACTION,
WHICH MEANS THEY'RE ALLOWED TO PLEAD,
PROMISE, AND ANNOY

WHICH MEANS, TECHNICALLY,
THEY CAN CONTINUE TO BADGER US,
LIKE PETE DID TO YOU,
INDEFINITELY

AND YOU WILL NOT
BELIEVE HOW MUCH THE SPIRIT
DRAGON WHINES WHEN SHE
DOESN'T GET HER WAY

I WOULDN'T HAVE PUT IT
IN THOSE EXACT TERMS,
BUT YES

KINDERGARTEN BABY,
WASHES FACE IN GRAY,
ET CETERA

... I KNOW NOW WHY
BAHAMUT GAVE ME THE
WATCH BACK

IT WAS FOR PITY'S SAKE

UNTIL "INDEFINITELY"
HAPPENS, I CAN STILL TRY
AND LIVE LIFE AS I KNEW IT

EVEN STILL, I'M SICK OF
BEING AFRAID OF THE
CONSEQUENCES

I'D RATHER DO THE
RIGHT THING

... I WOULD
TOO

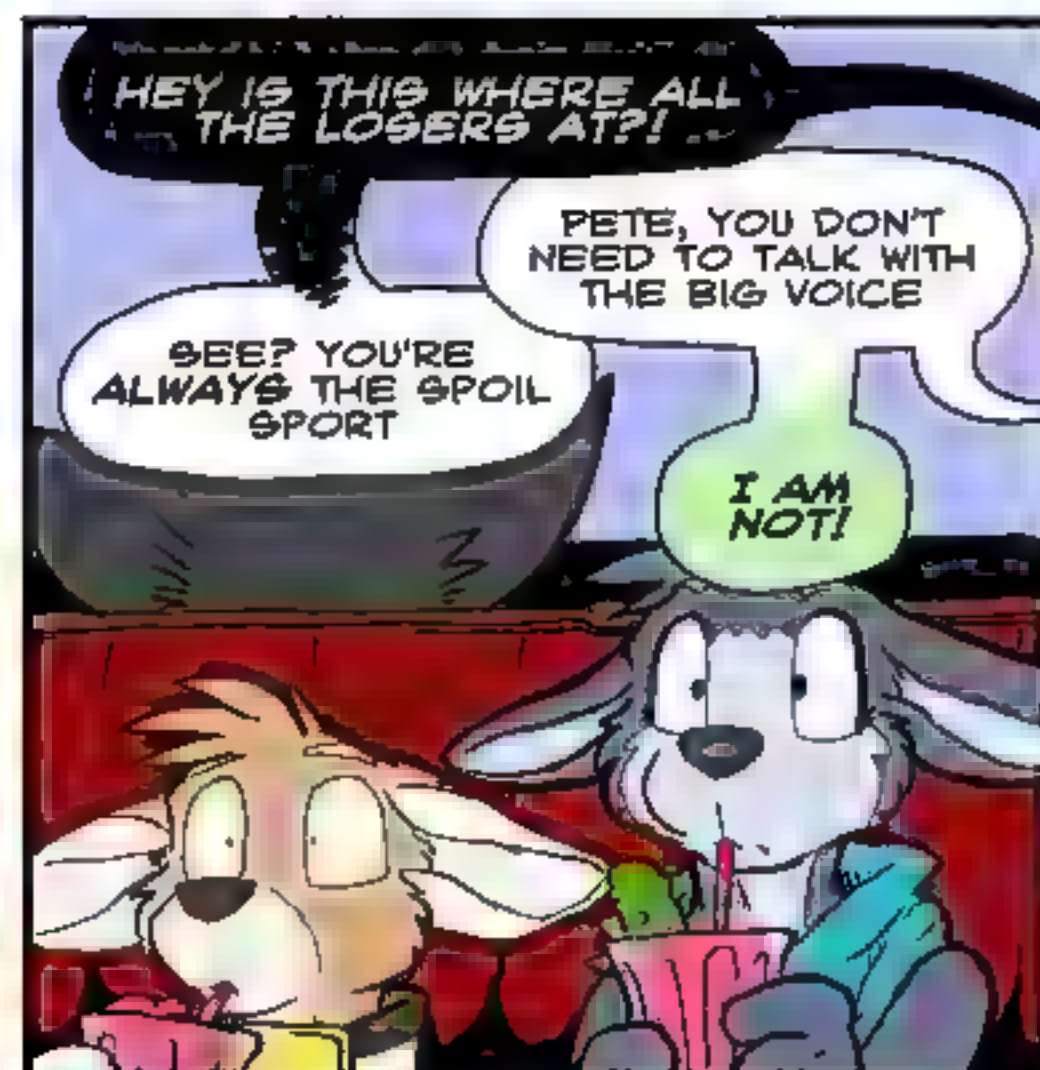
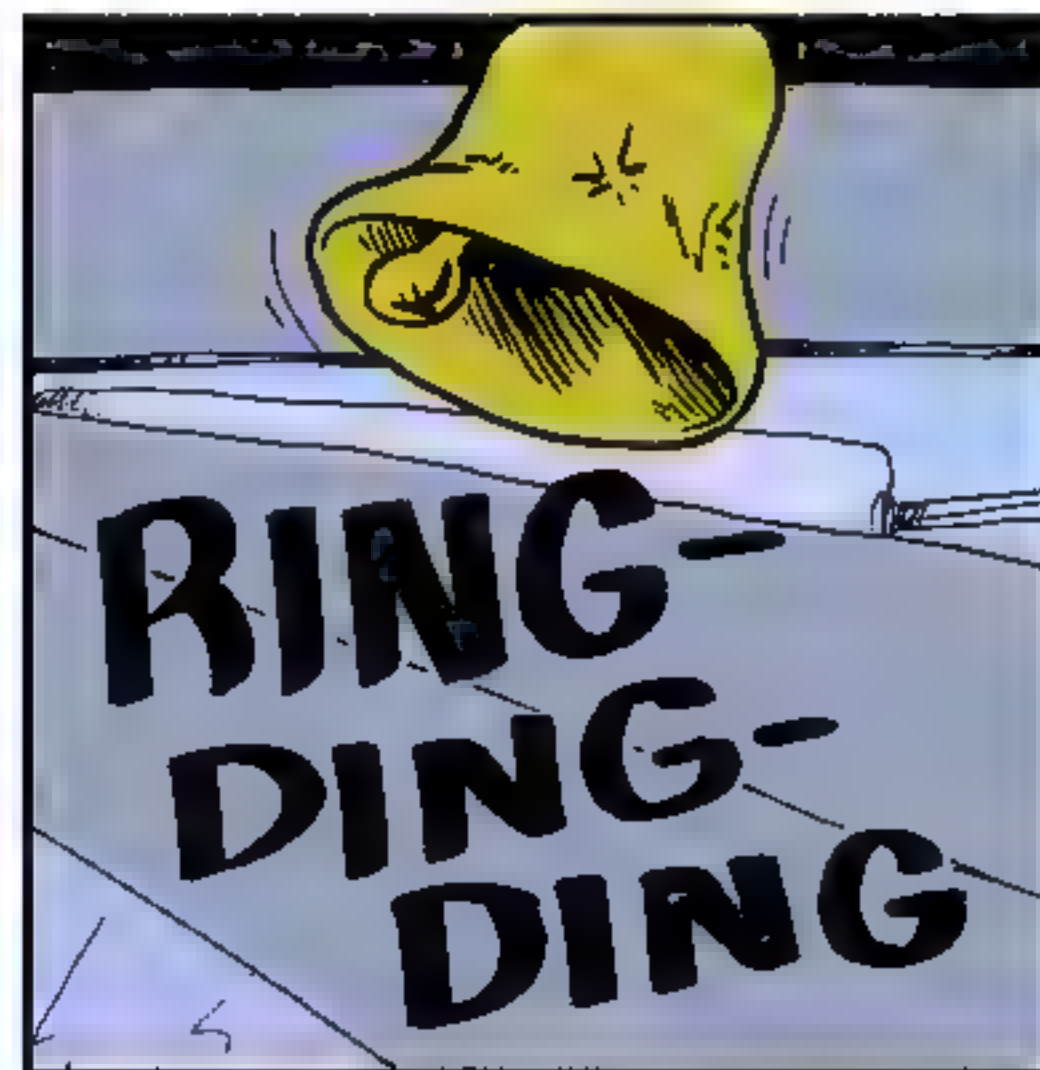
I DON'T KNOW, BUT
WHATEVER YOU WANT
TO DO, I TRUST YOU
HON

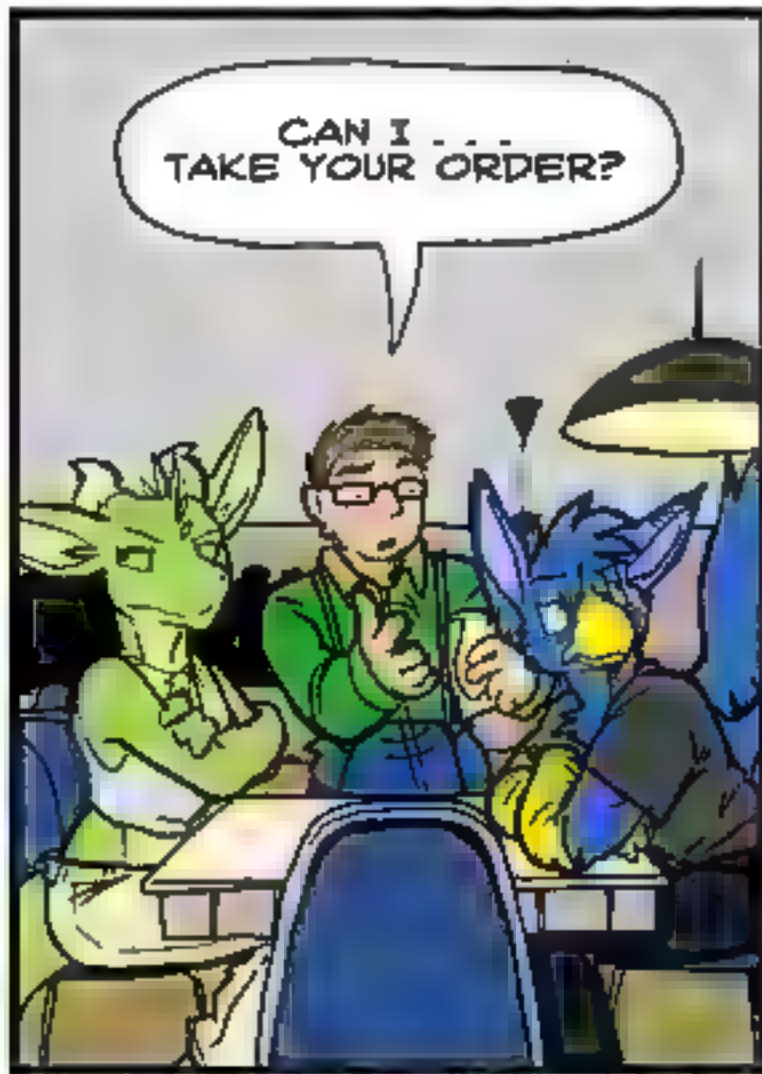
THIS WOULD BE
IDEAL COMPARED
TO MOST FUTURES
I'VE SEEN

IT'S DECIDED ... WE MIGHT
BE STUCK IN THE MIDDLE OF
THE DESERT FOR YEARS,
BUT WE DO GO ON PRINCIPLE!

OR WE COULD GO BACK TO
TOWN AND GET SOME
STRAWBERRY MILKSHAKES

DARYL, YOUR
PRESENCE ON THIS
TRIP HAS PROVED
INVALUABLE





Rick Griffin



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--BECAUSE IN *THIS* UNIVERSE,
IF YOU HAVE FUR, YOU CAN GO AROUND
STARKERS IF YOU LIKE

KITSUNE! . . . AND YOU
BROUGHT ALONG LITTLE
MISS TOO-GOOD-FOR-ME!
THIS MIGHT TURN INTO A
PARTY IF ANYONE WERE
TO SHOW UP

**RING-
DING-
DING**

SPEAKING OF, WHY
THE EMPTY SODA
SHOP?

I'M SURE YOU
KNOW THE ANSWER
TO THAT

THAT'S BAD GAME
MASTERING! YOU
CAN'T JUST MAGIC
EVERYONE OFF THE
PLAYING FIELD!

I DID NO
SUCH THING!

SNAP

. . . THEY DID THAT
ON THEIR OWN

HI

NOW I WASN'T **SUPPOSED** TO REMOVE THE VEIL, BUT THERE IS NO SENSE IN DRAWING THIS OUT

THEY DECIDED THEY'RE ALL DONE FIGHTING AND WILL TAKE THE PENALTIES FOR LOSING

OUT OF MY INNATE AND BOUNDLESS SENSE OF FAIRNESS, I AM GIVING YOU BOTH **TEN MINUTES** TO CONVINCE THEM OTHERWISE

OR IT'S **GAME OVER**



HON, THIS ISN'T RIGHT! WHAT DID I EVER DO TO HURT YOU?

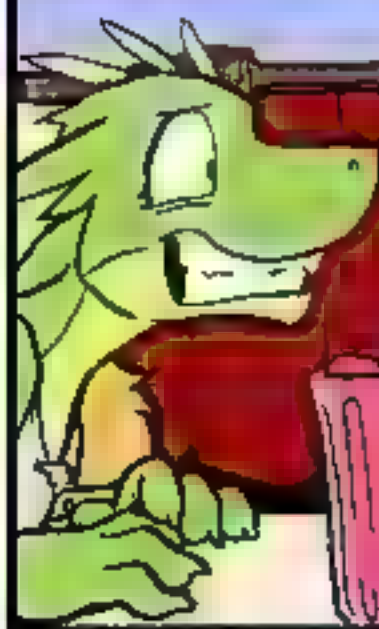
WOULD YOU LIKE THE LIST OF **EVERYTHING BEFORE OR AFTER** YOU WHINED AT ME TO TAKE A BOYFRIEND I BARELY KNEW?

WHO, I REMIND YOU, YOU ATTEMPTED TO **STEAL FROM ME** AFTER I'D DECIDED I WANTED TO KEEP HIM?



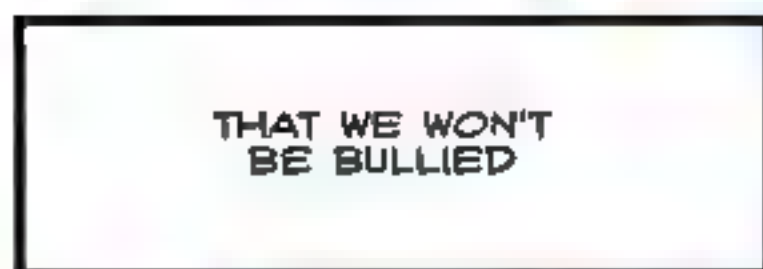
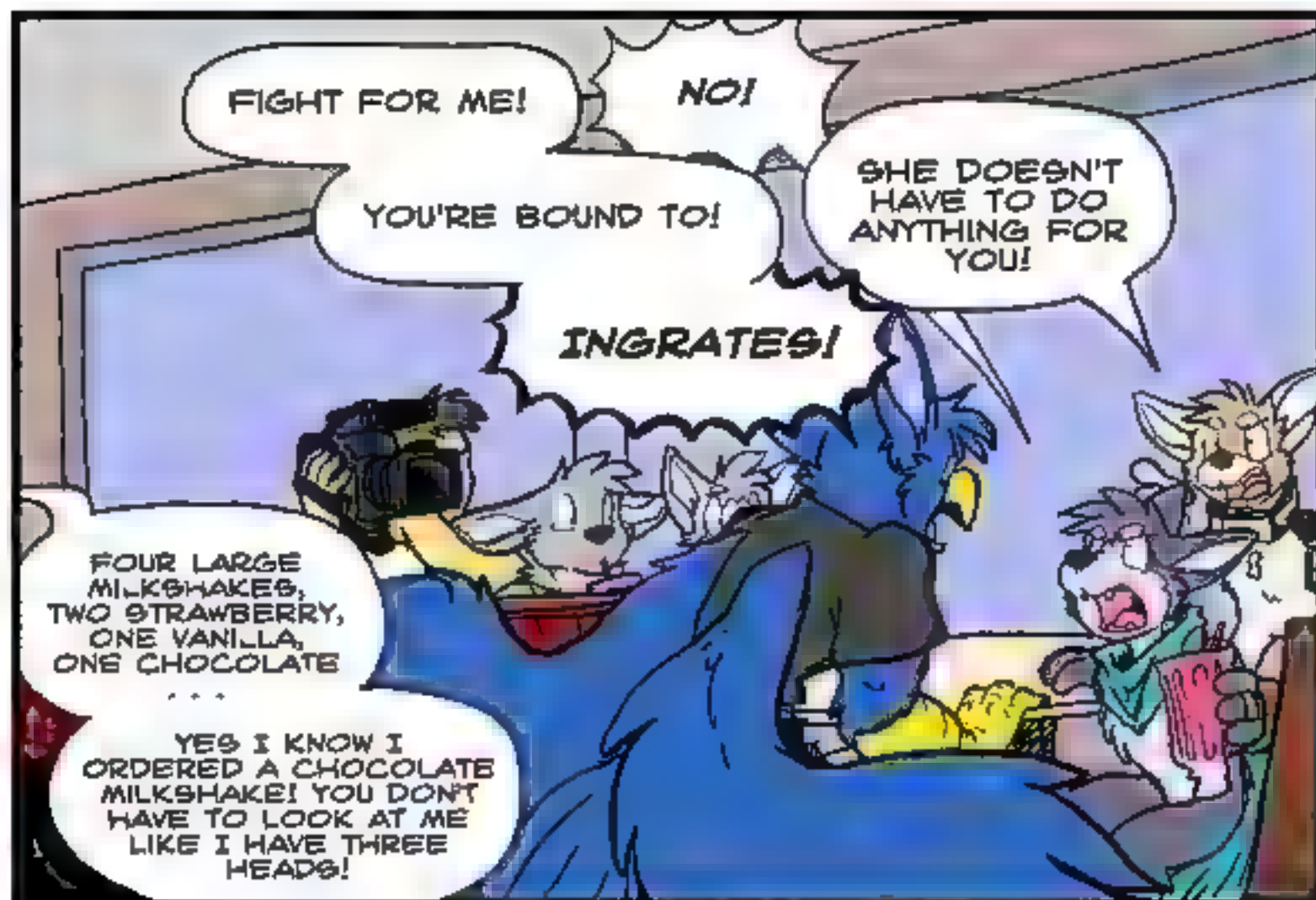
... SABRINA?

ITEM THE FIRST, CONCERNING YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARD MY EX-BOYFRIENDS ...



WHAT?!





WHAT'S WRONG GUYS?
SURELY YOU CAN PULL A
LAST-MINUTE SAVE

YOU'RE **INFINITELY
POWERFUL** AFTER ALL

**SHUT UP!
SHUT UP!**

OH BUT THAT'S RIGHT...
INFINITE POWER DOESN'T
MEAN A THING WHEN YOU
CAN'T LORD IT OVER MORTALS
HOWEVER YOU LIKE

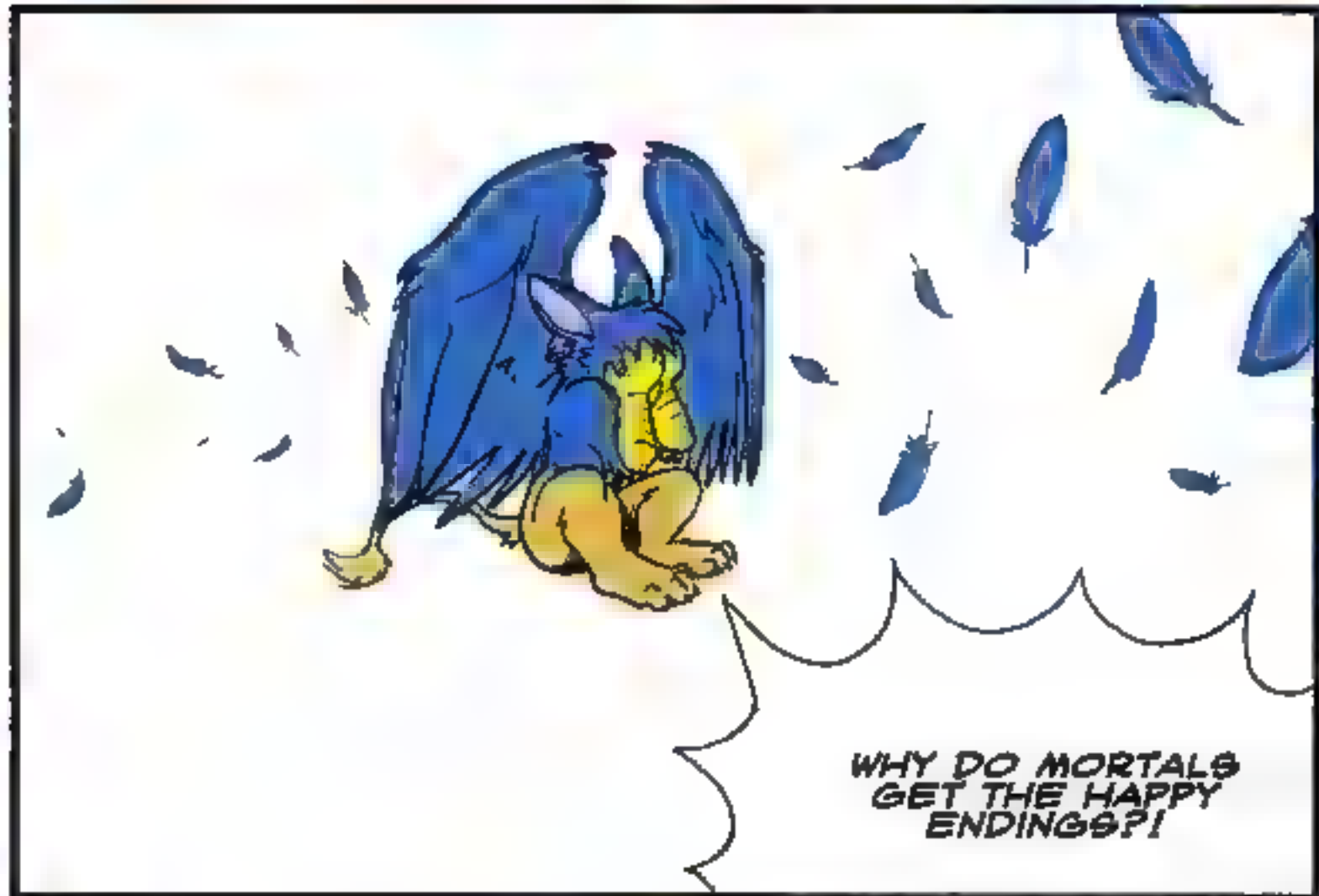
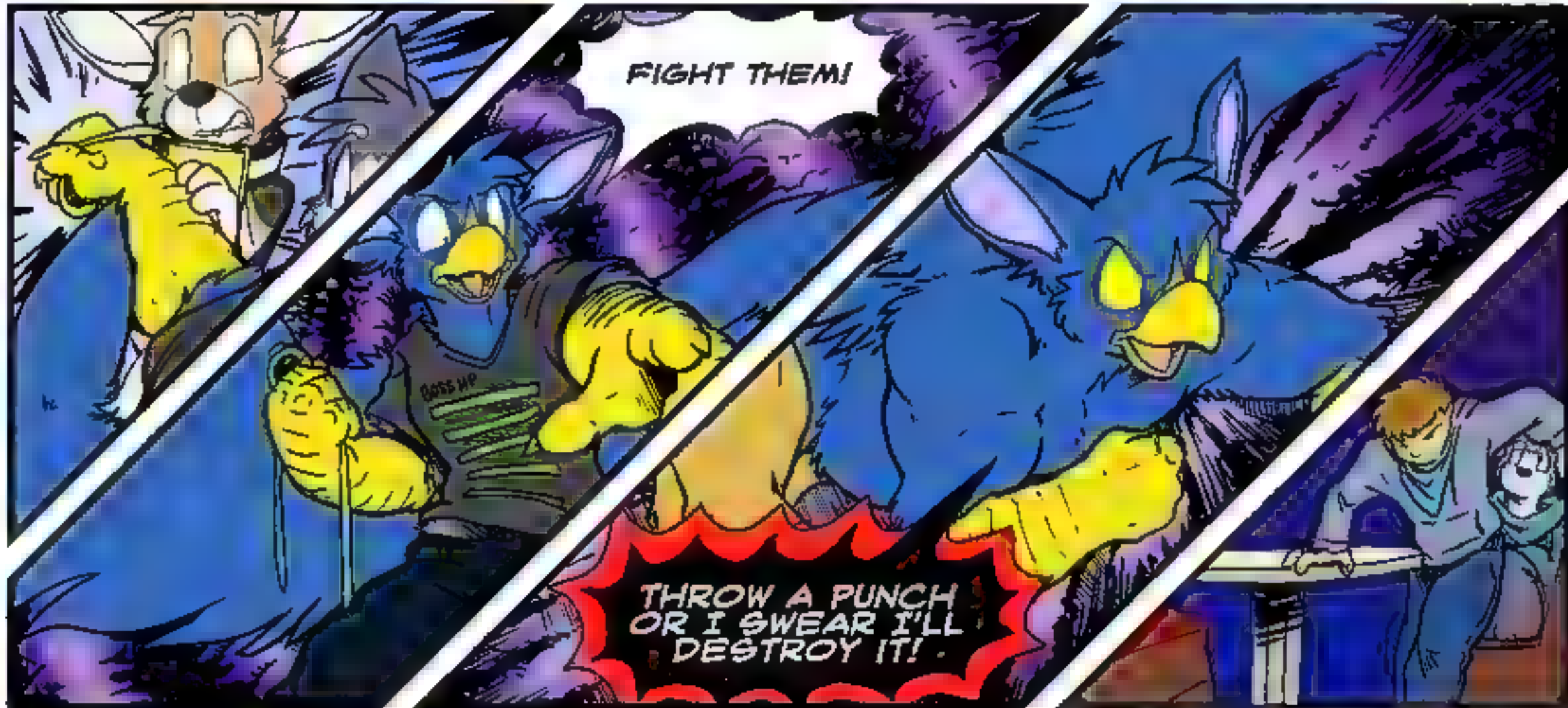
IT'S **ALMOST** AS IF YOUR
EGOTISTICAL POWER PLAYS
WEREN'T MUCH MORE THAN
HOT AIR AND BRAGGING

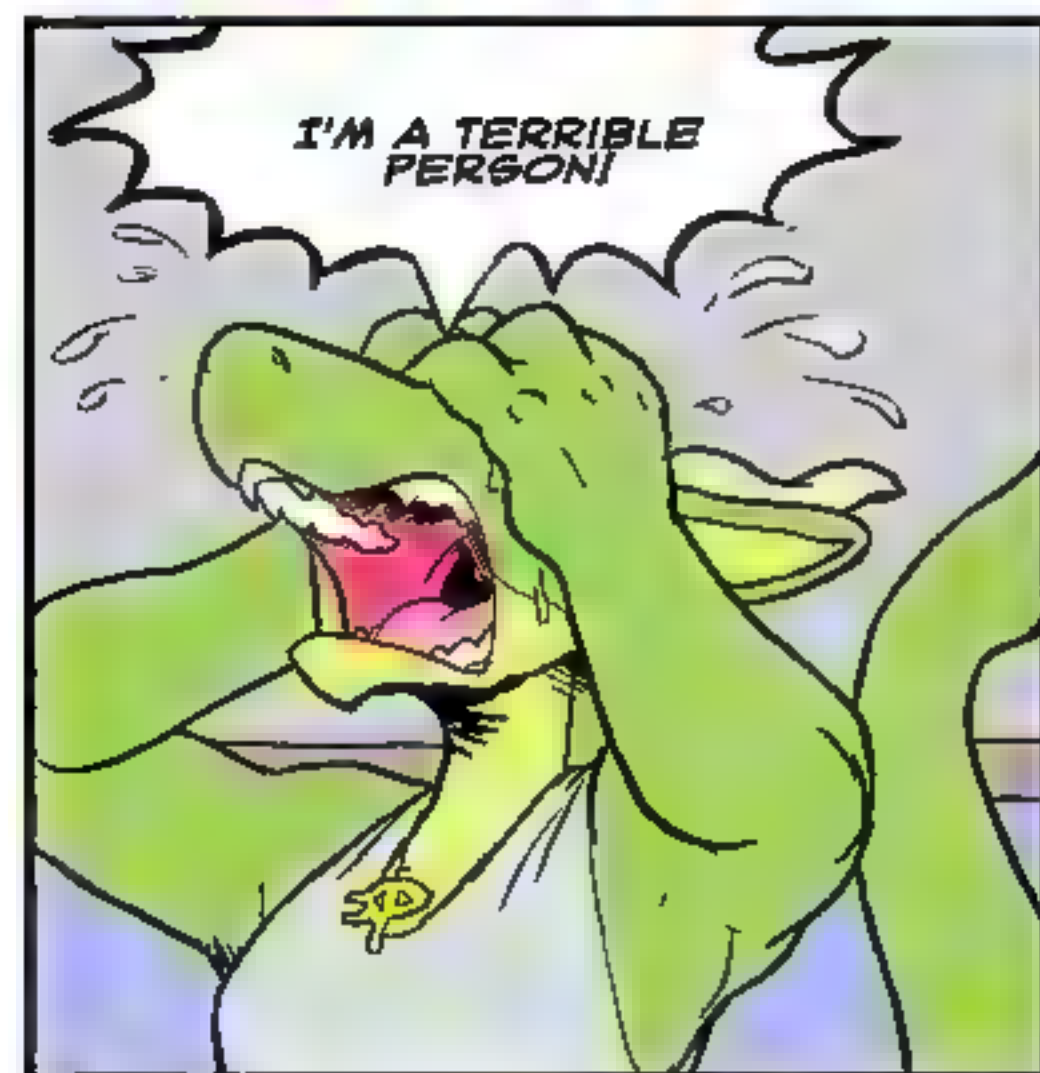
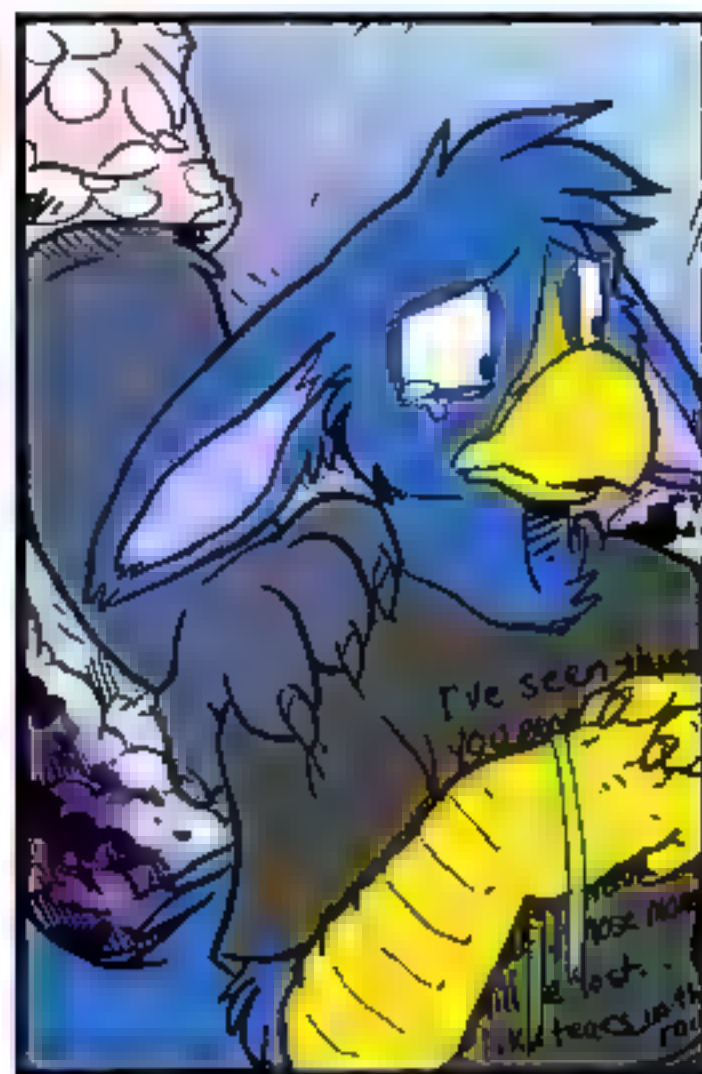
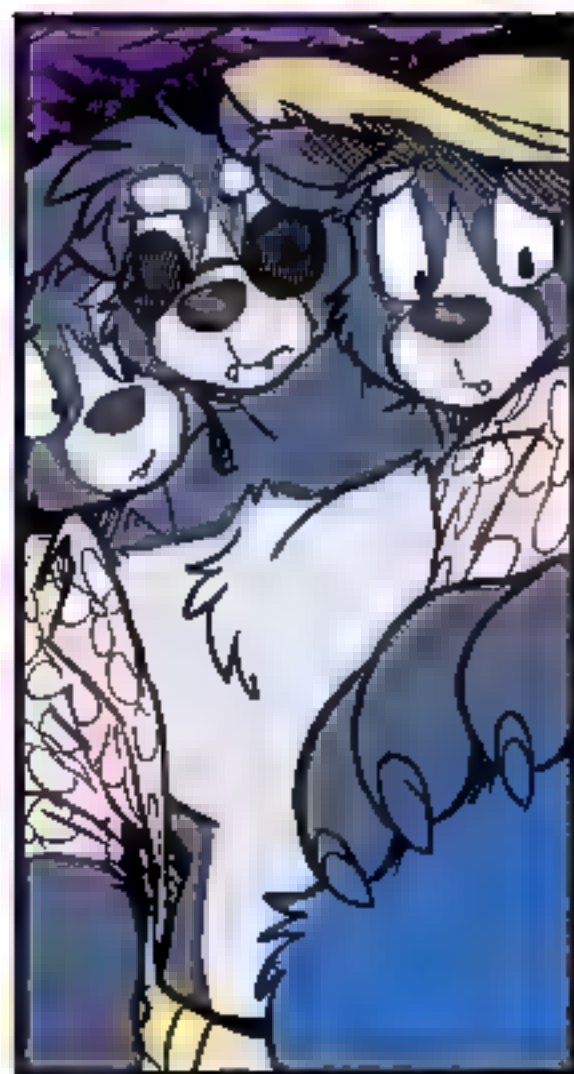
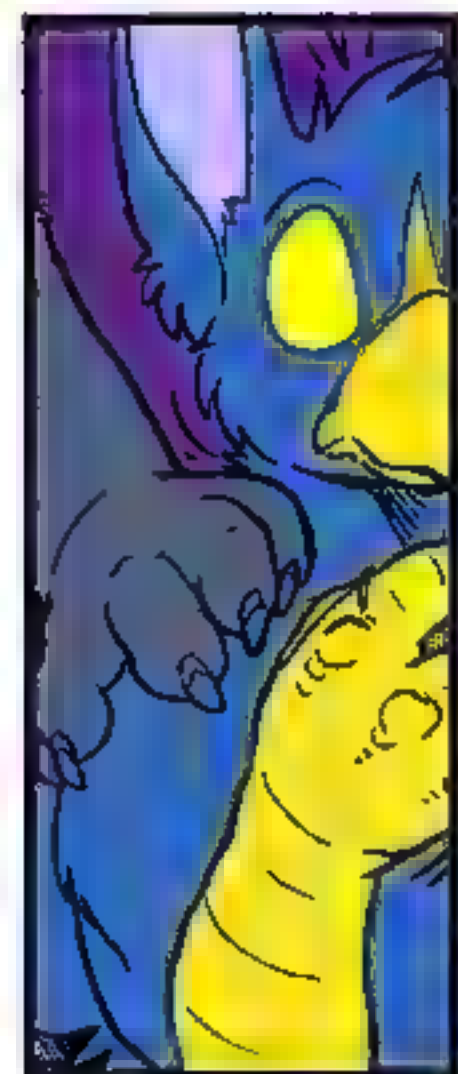
IT'S **ALMOST**
AS IF I HOPED
YOU'D GAIN SOME
PERSPECTIVE
BEFORE IT
CAME TO THIS

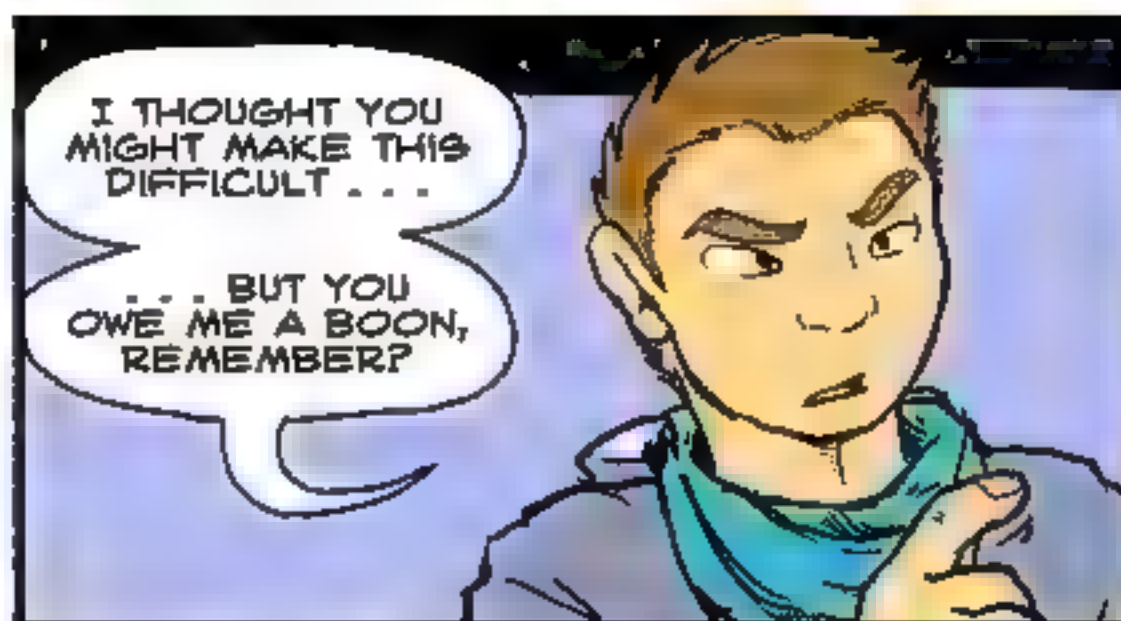
BOOK OF
FATE

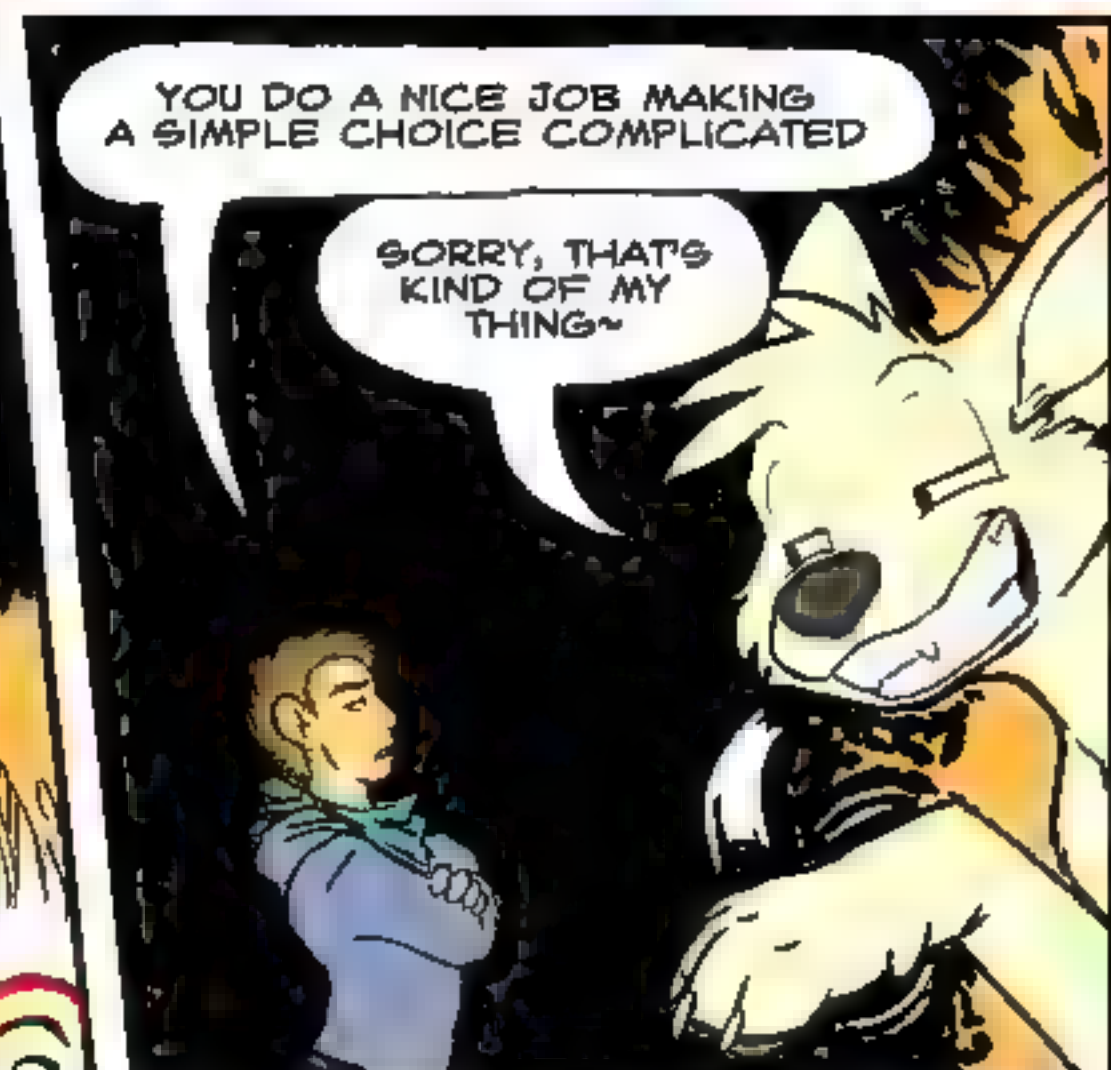
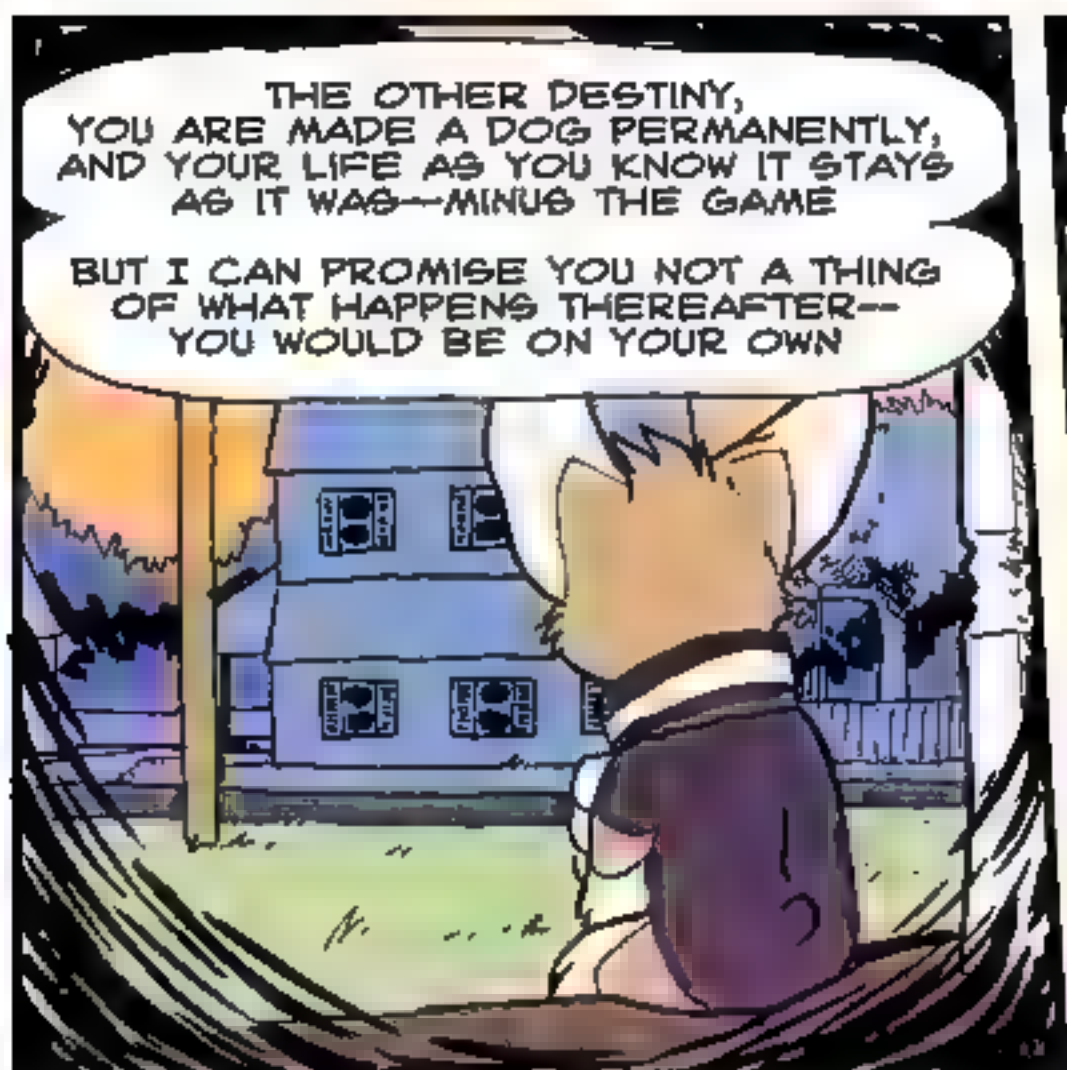
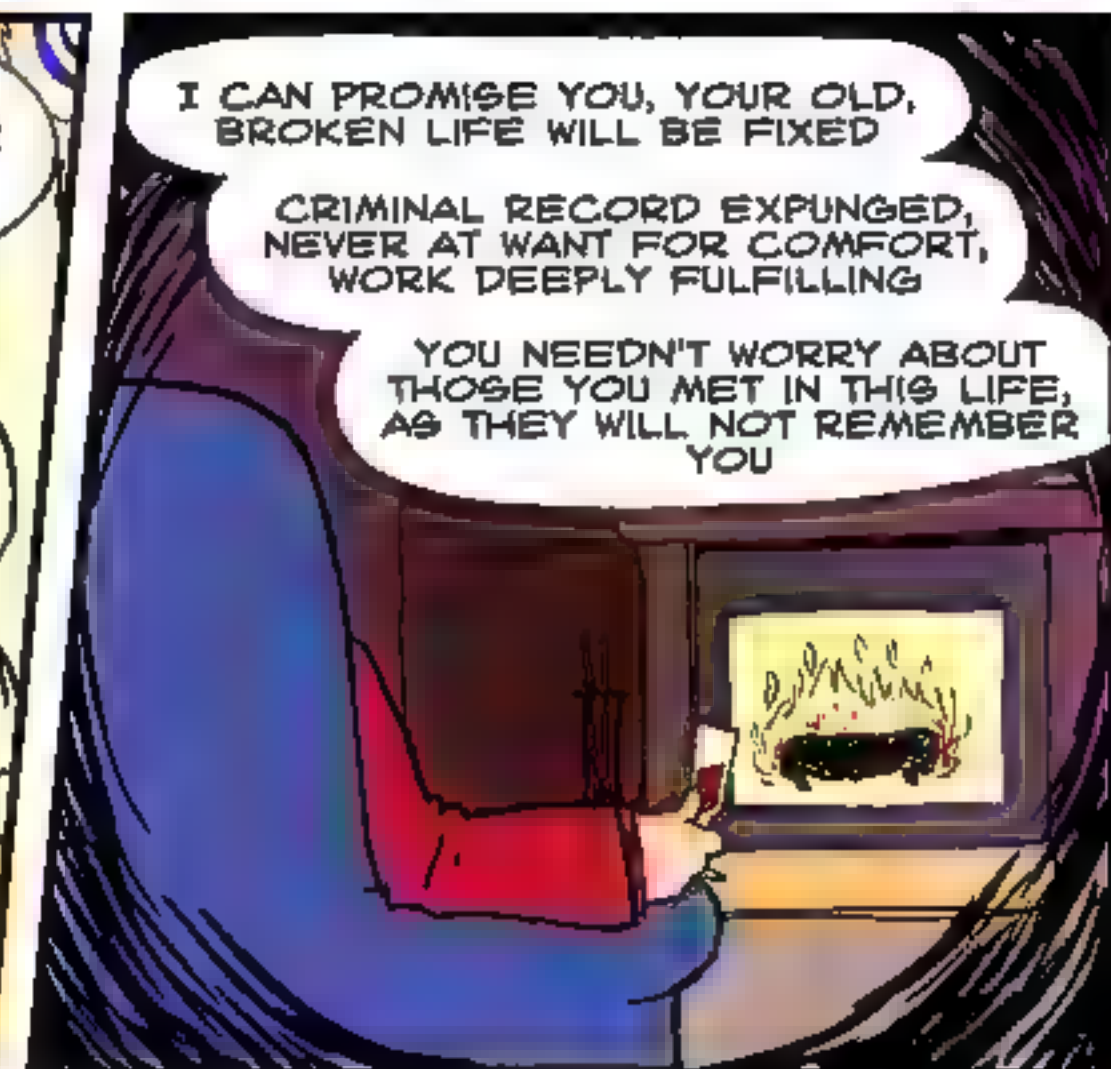
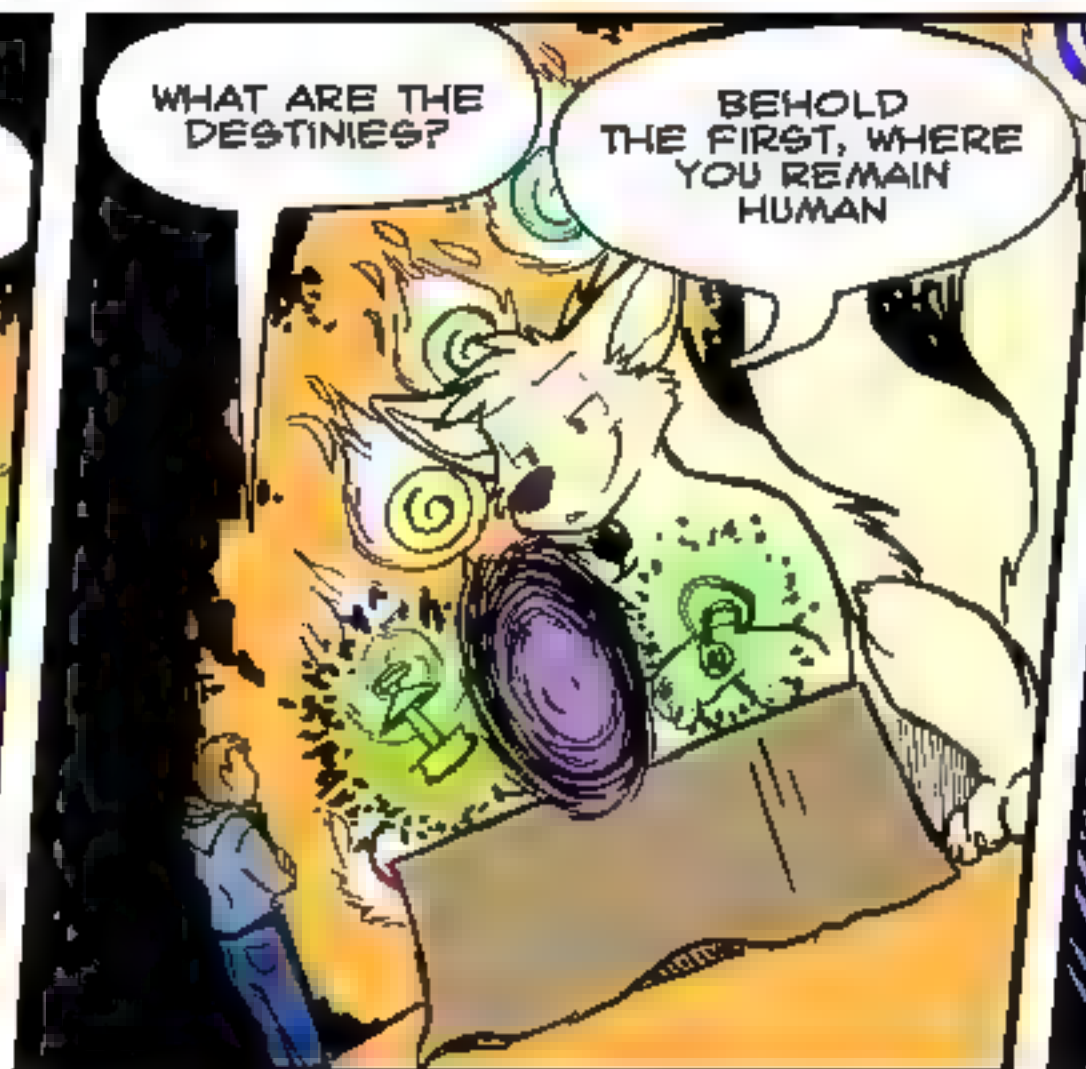
... IT WASN'T **DRAGON**
WHO GAVE YOU THIS
THING, WAS IT?

YES, YOU'RE
VERY SMART,
NOW HUSH









EVER SINCE
YOU GOT THE
WATCH . . .

YOU WERE A
FREE AGENT . . .

THE OTHER
DESTINY . . .

YOU ARE ON
YOUR OWN

KING . . .

KING, ARE
YOU OKAY?

I WAS . . .
I WAS RIGHT

OH
BAILEY!

YOU DID IT,
KING! IT'S
OVER!

WAIT . . .

WE'RE STILL IN
AUSTRALIA?!

AREN'T YOU GOING TO DO
THE "WAKE UP" BIT?

EH, IT'S
OVERPLAYED

END!!

UGH. EVERYONE HAS SO MANY IDEAS
OF WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN NEXT.
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST LET THE FANS
DECIDE WHAT I DRAW NEXT.



SO IN THIS LAST POLL,
YOU, THE FANS, VOTED THAT
WE, THE CAST OF HOUSEPETS!,
SHOULD ALL GET MARRIED
AND HAVE LOTS AND LOTS
OF PUPPIES AND KIT-



HMM ...



HEY,
PEANUT WHAT'S
THIS? ANOTHER SPOT
THE SUPERDOG
COMIC?

ACTUALLY, THIS TIME
I WANTED TO MAKE A
COMIC ABOUT US!

COME AGAIN?

I THOUGHT IT WOULD
BE FUN IF I MADE A
SLICE-OF-LIFE COMEDY
ABOUT LIFE AS A
HOUSEPET

SEE,
IT CAN BE ABOUT OUR
EVERYDAY LIVES, THE
GAMES WE PLAY...

THE
NEIGHBORHOOD
CATS AND DOGS..

THE SITUATIONS WE GET
INTO LIKE WATERGUN
BATTLES, LOVE TRIANGLES.

LIFE-ALTERING PHYSICAL
TRANSFORMATIONS CAUSED BY
SUPERBEINGS PLAYING A COSMIC
GAME, INTERNATIONAL CORPORATIONS
RUN AT THE BEHEST OF
BILLIONAIRE FERRETS...

HMM .. I DON'T
KNOW ABOUT THAT

YEAH, I SUPPOSE IT
PROBABLY WOULD BE A
BIT TOO MUNDANE. .

MONTHS BEFORE "HEAVEN'S NOT ENOUGH"

LOOK AT ME! I'M A DUMB HOOMAN!



LOOK AT MY HOOMAN CLOTHES!
LOOK AT MY HOOMAN FOOD!

LOOK AT IT

BAILEY,
STOP



HUUUUUUUUUU

STOPOOOO



KING'S TOTALLY
GONNA KILL YOU

WORTH IT



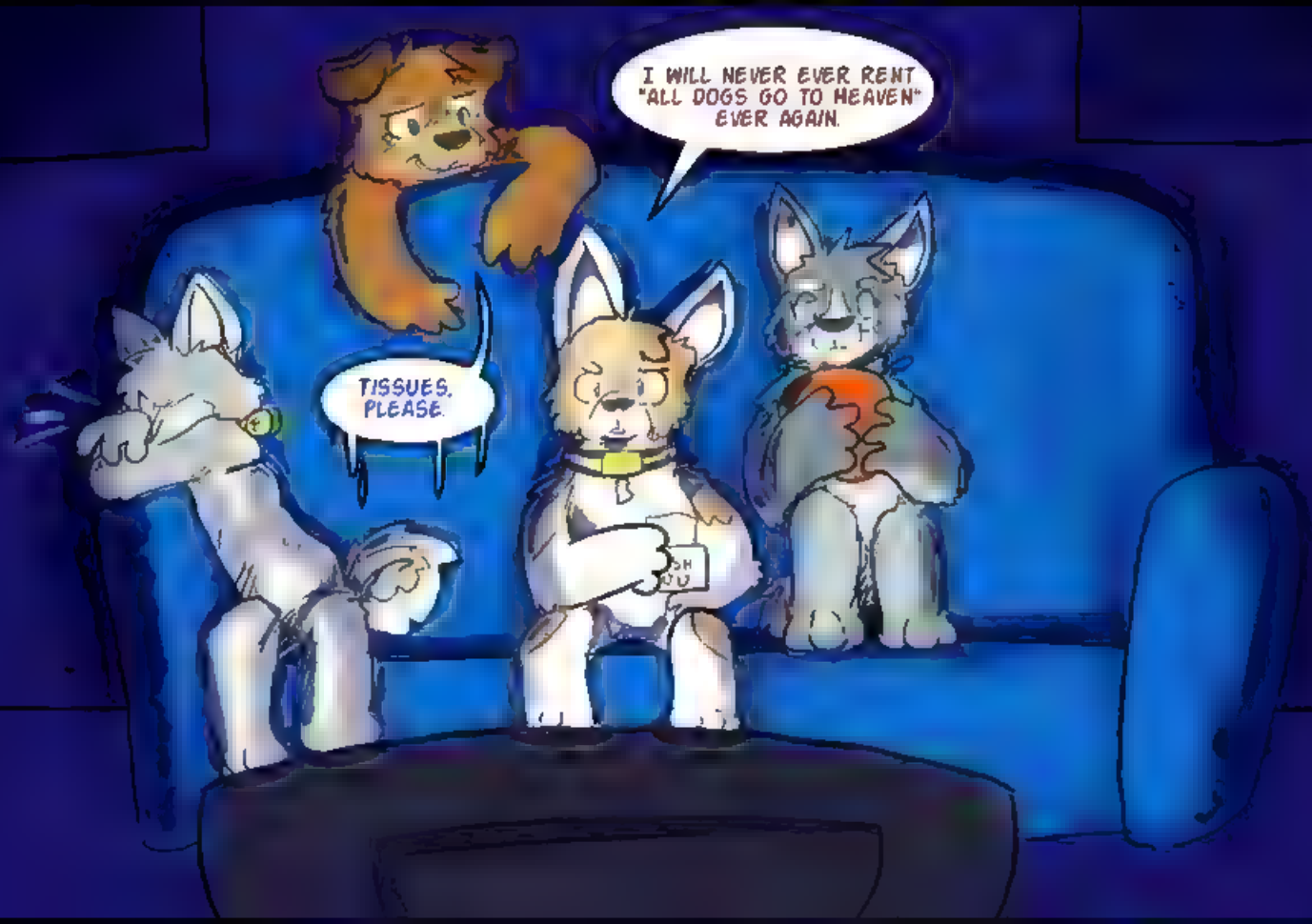
Housepets!

CHARITY CUTENESS CONTEST

BETTER
WE WIN, MUTT,
OR "YOU" DEAL
WITH MAXIE!

WHAT AM I
EVEN DOING
HERE!?



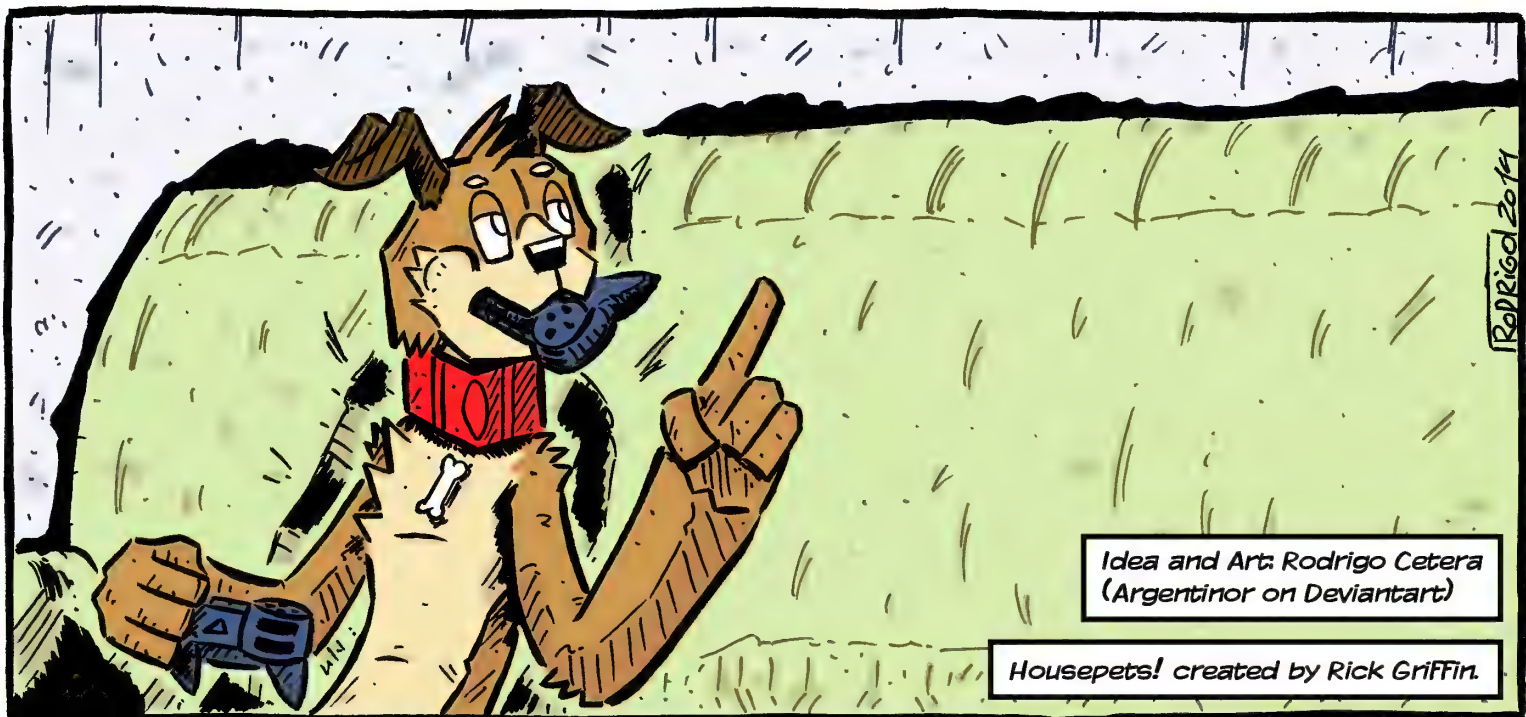
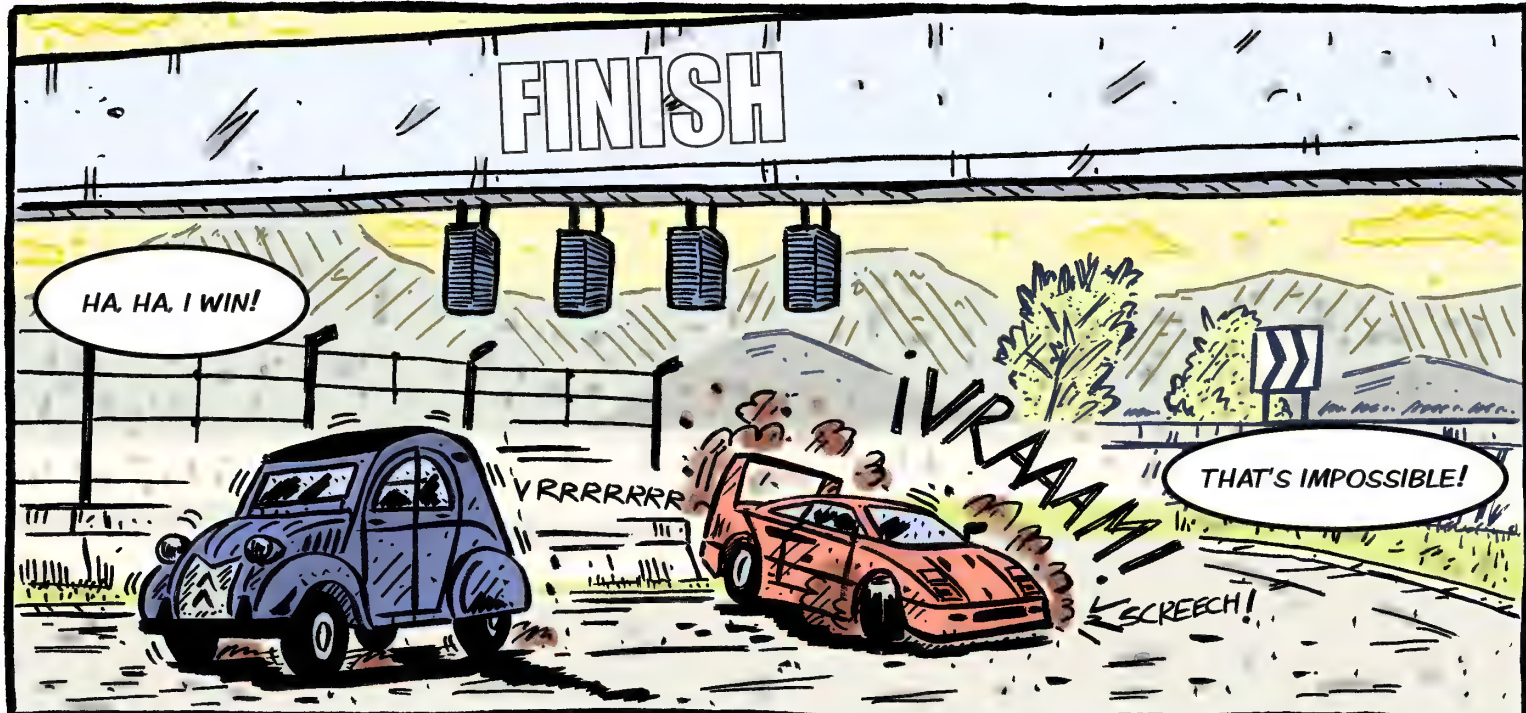


I WILL NEVER EVER RENT
"ALL DOGS GO TO HEAVEN"
EVER AGAIN.

TISSUES,
PLEASE.

OH
YU

5/2



AND HOW, EXACTLY,
ARE WE GOING TO GET
HOME?

WE CAN'T EXACTLY
TELEPORT YOU KNOW!
... NOT ANYMORE!

AND WHAT MAKES
YOU THINK ANY OF THIS
IS MY PROBLEM?

MORTAL
FERRET!

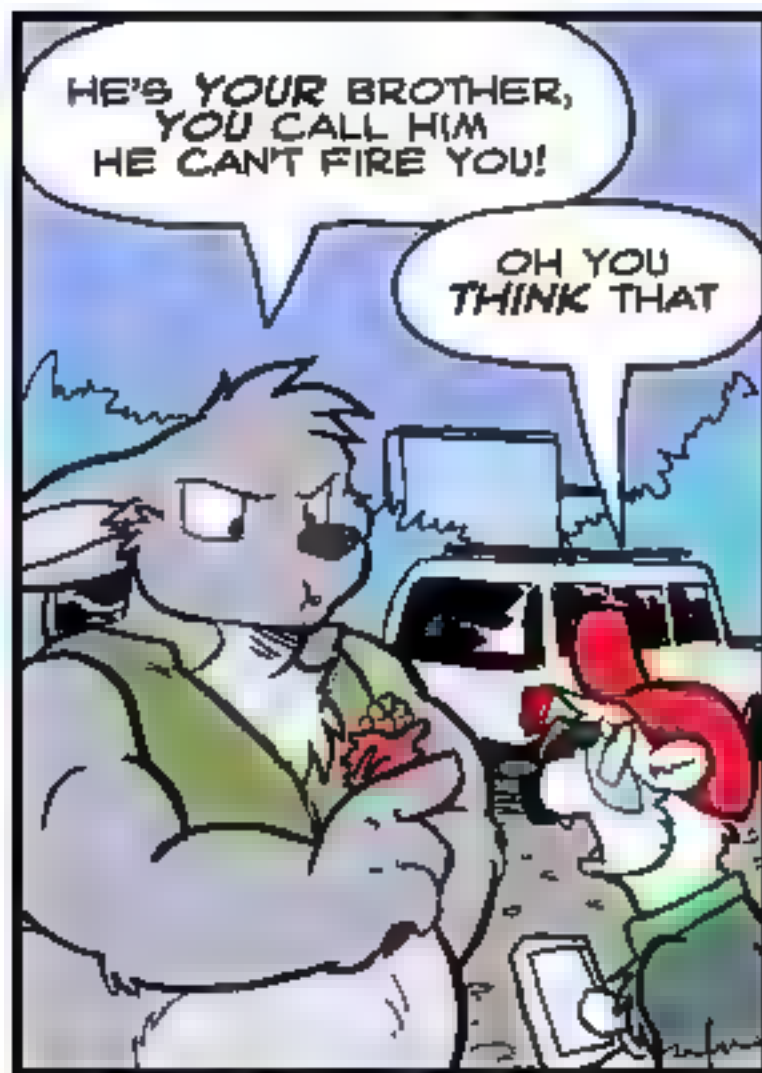
THIS IS NOT A TIME FOR YOUR FEAR
AND GREED! LOOK AT YOUR PHONE
AND BEHOLD THE FATE WHICH AWAITS
YOU SHOULD YOU PROVE UNCHARITABLE!

≥G-GULP≤

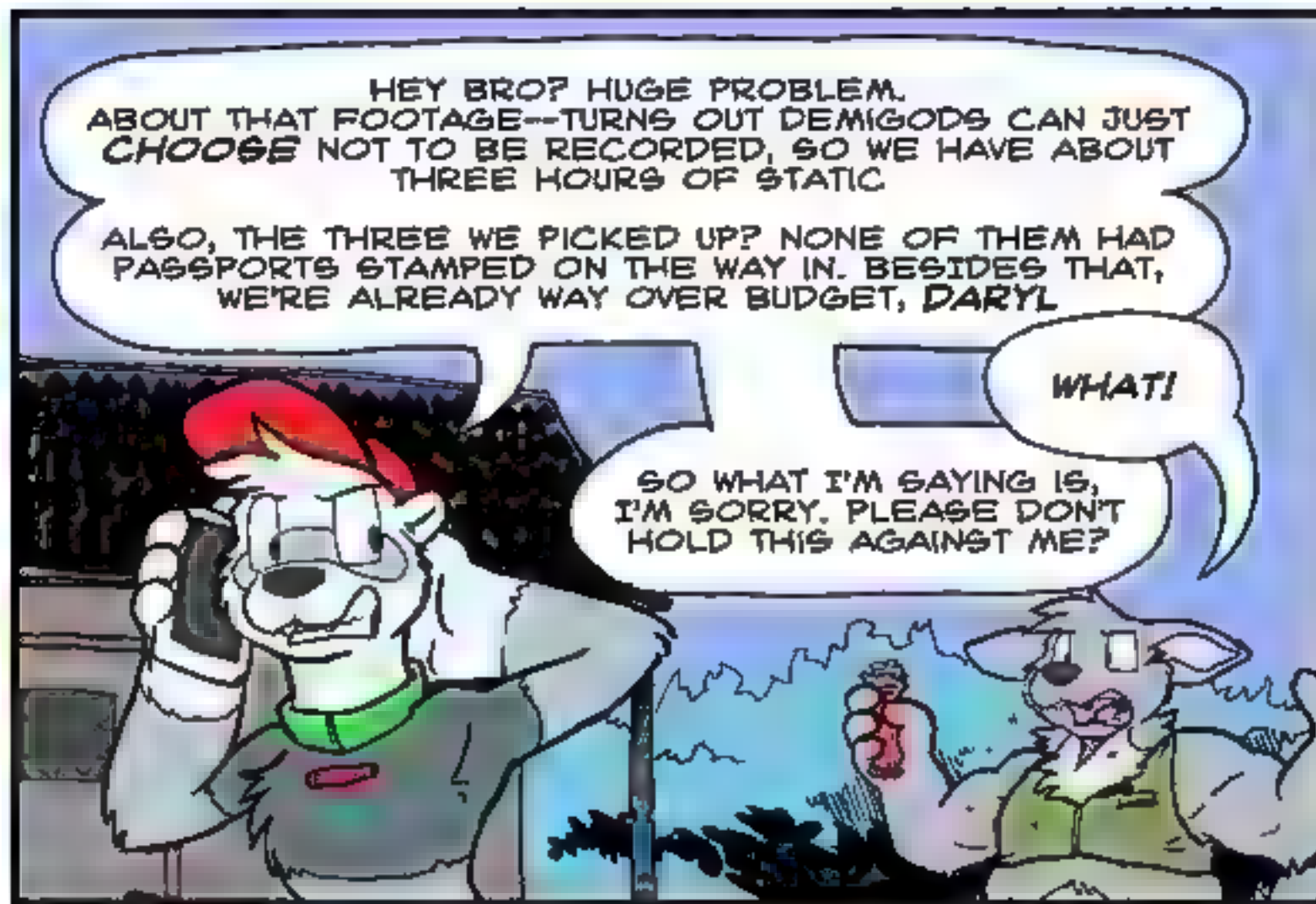
AS I WAS SAYING,
I WILL DO **EVERYTHING** IN MY POWER
TO GET YOU LADIES HOME

SO WHAT
WAS IT?

IRS AUDIT



Rick Griffin



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UH-HUH, OKAY,
IF **SLAGRON**
THE ENFORCER STOPS
BY I'LL TELL HIM THAT
YOU'RE CLOSING THE
INTERDIMENSIONAL
BRANCH OF THE
AGENCY

LOVE YOU TOO!

WAIT WHAT?
WHO WAS THAT?

TAROT.
SHE'S IN
AUSTRALIA

WAS SABRINA
THERE? IS
SHE ALRIGHT?!

I DUNNO.
PROBABLY

WHAT DO YOU
MEAN YOU DON'T
KNOW? DON'T YOU
ASK QUESTIONS?!

YOU KNOW I USED TO,
BUT PEOPLE THINK IT'S RUDE
WHEN THEY'RE SAD AND YOU
INTERRUPT THEM TO ASK IF
DINNER IS GOING TO BE ON
TIME OR NOT

ON SECOND THOUGHT,
IT'S PROBABLY BETTER
THAT I WAIT

SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WHEN WE GET BACK?

IT'S CRAZY, BUT
... I'VE BEEN THINKING
ABOUT JOINING THE
K-9 ACADEMY

REALLY

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED
TO TRY, BUT SINCE FIDO
WAS OUSTED FROM THE
GOOD OL' DOGS CLUB

... I WANT AN EXCUSE
TO BE SOMEWHERE
ELSE

ARE YOU SURE THERE
ISN'T ANOTHER REASON?

UGH!
WHO KEEPS CALLING
ME? I CAN'T AFFORD
TO GET STUCK WITH
INTERNATIONAL CHARGES
ON MY ALLOWANCE

HANG
UP

HE HUNG UP
AGAIN

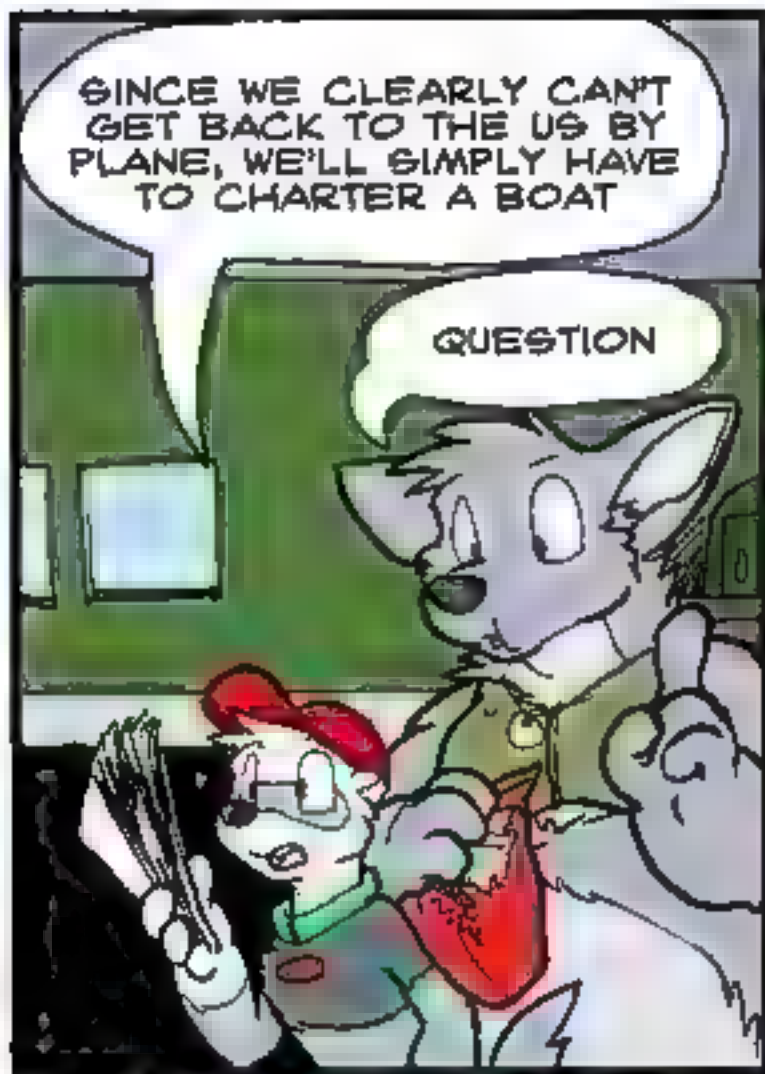
HMPH, AND HE
ACTED LIKE SUCH
A GENTLEDOG, TOO!



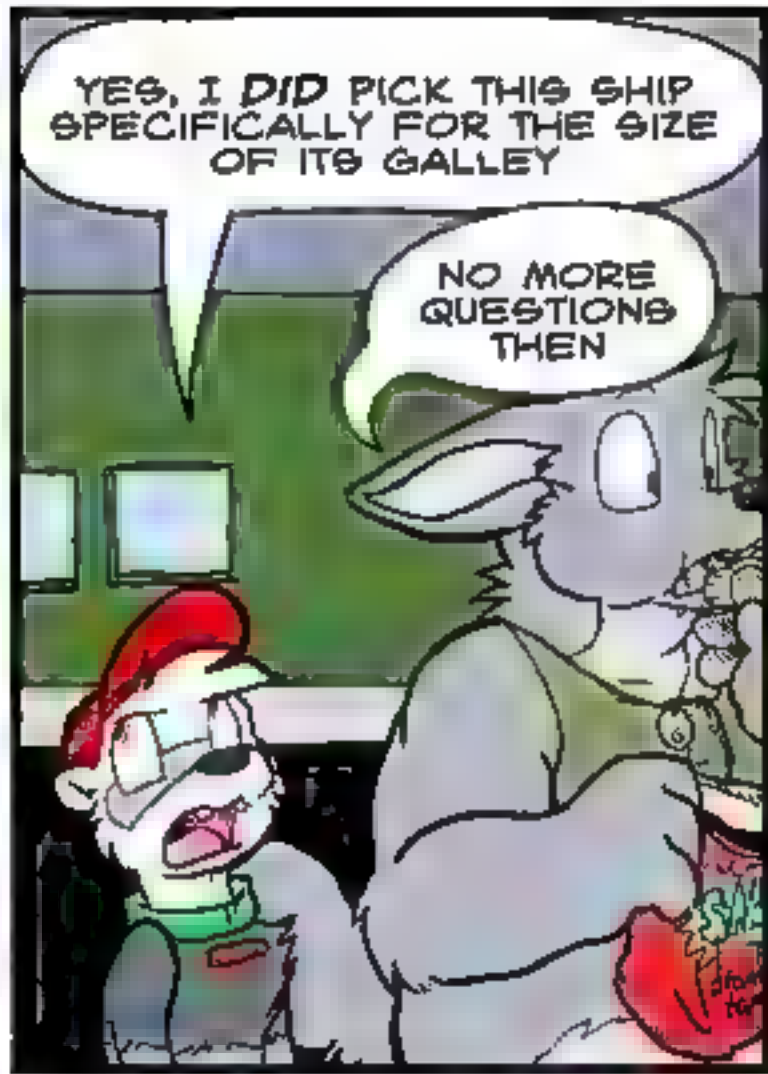
Rick Griffin



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OKAY, I *GUESS* THINGS
ENDED UP WORKING OUT
AFTER ALL. STILL WOULD
HAVE BEEN BETTER IF THE
CELESTIALS ZAPPED US
BACK HOME . . .

CAN'T YOU JUST *ONCE*
ENJOY A VICTORY WITHOUT
COMPLAINING THAT YOU
DIDN'T GET ENOUGH?

~SIGH~ YEAH,
YOU'RE RIGHT

I DON'T WANT TO
BE A PAIN IN
THE TAIL

EVERYTHING'S
PRETTY AWESOME

THOUGH I CAN'T HELP BUT
THINK WE'RE *MISSING*
SOMETHING IN ALL THIS

IT'S JUST YOUR
IMAGINATION

OUR TICKETS WERE
REFUNDED? *WHEN?!*

ONE WEEK LATER

FINALLY BACK HOME!
I JUST WANT TO TAKE
AN ELABORATE SERIES
OF CATNAPS—

TXT
TXT...

SABBY!

ACK

TACKLE

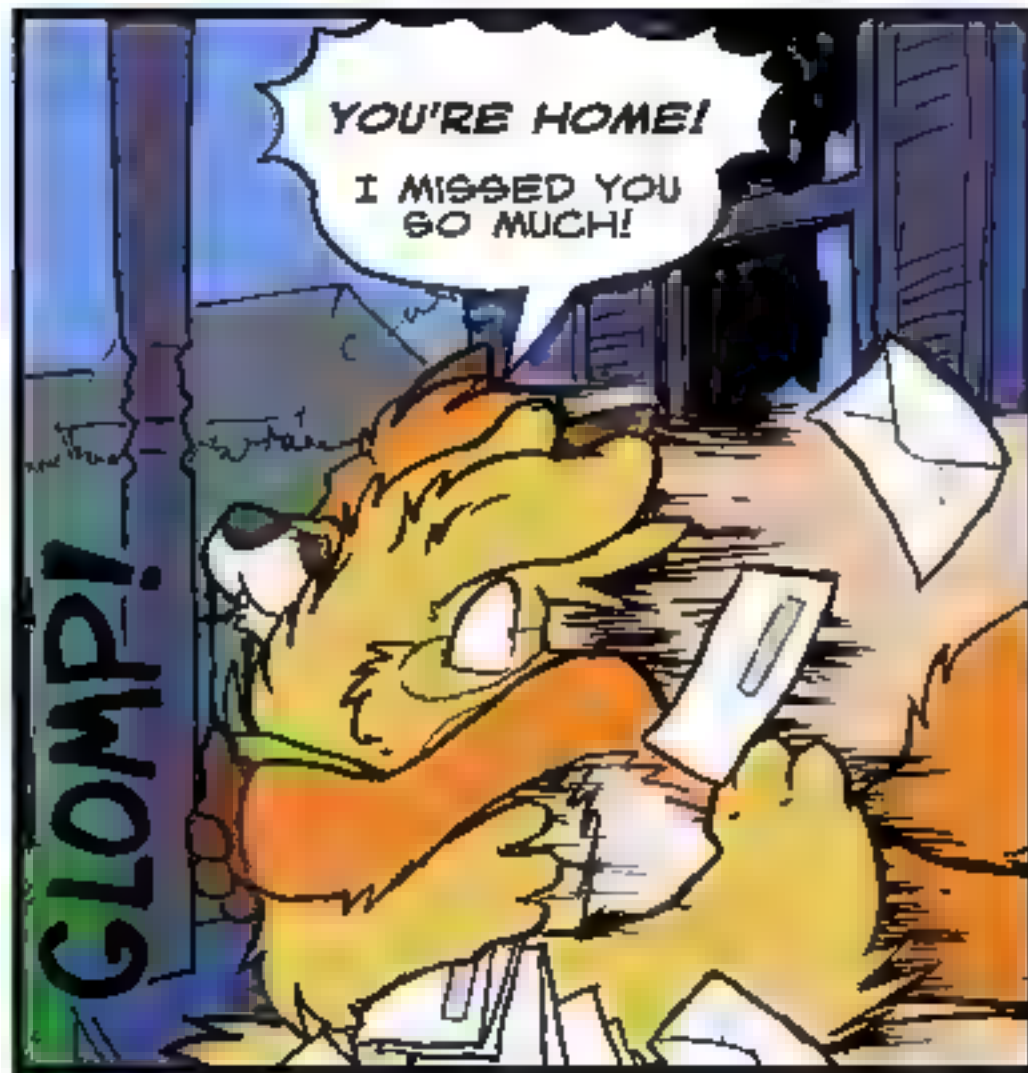
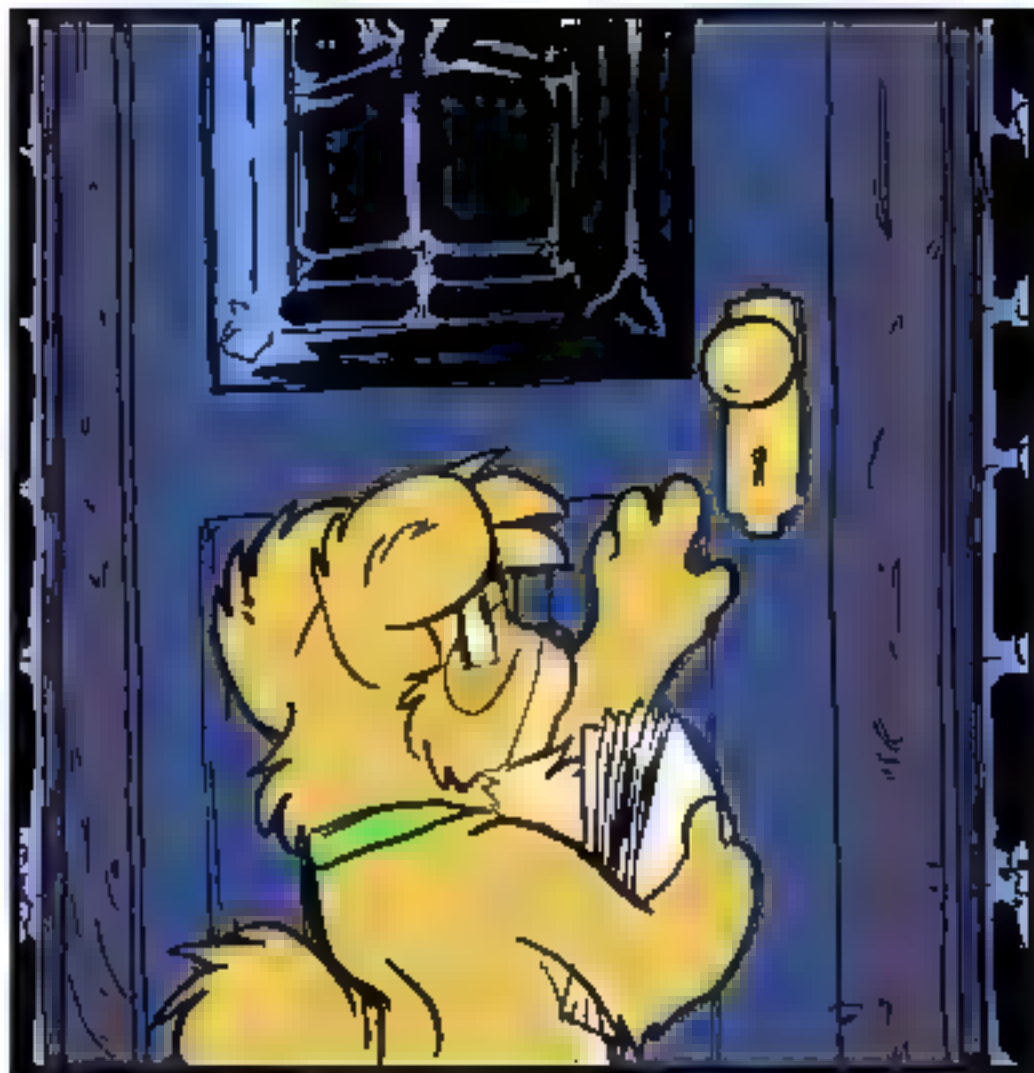
HI TAROT!
HERE'S YOUR
MAIL

AND WHERE'S
MY ENTHUSIASTIC
WELCOME HOME?

MY TAIL'S
WAGGING!
GEEP

Rick Griffin

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GRAAAPE! DID YOU KNOW
YOU CAN BUY HALLOWEEN CANDY
AT THE STORE?

UH, WHERE DID YOU
THINK IT CAME FROM?

I DUNNO! I THOUGHT THEY
GOT IT FROM CATALOGUES,
LIKE WITH THANKSGIVING

NO NO NO,
THE **TOOTH FAIRY**
BRINGS IT ALL--KEEPS
HER IN BUSINESS

YEAH, THAT MAKES
A LOT MORE SENSE

I THINK IF YOU'RE GOING TO DRESS UP AS AN ANIME CHARACTER, THE DESIGN SHOULD BE JUST AS RECOGNIZABLE AS A GENERIC

PFF, WHY SHOULD I CODDLE THEM?

IT'S NOT MY FAULT THAT OTHER PEOPLE CAN'T INSTANTLY PICK UP ON THE MULTITUDES OF TINY, EASY-TO-SPOT DETAILS OF MY FAVORITE ANIME!

YOU'D HAVE TO BE AN IDIOT TO NOT RECOGNIZE JOEY IS GOING AS ARIMA FROM KARE KANO

NO I'M NOT

NO WAIT, I MEANT **LELOUCH** FROM **CODE GEASS**

ECHIZEN
RYOMA?

TAKASHI
KAMIYAMA

KARASUMA
OUJI

JOTARO
KUJO

OKAY, WEARING A **GAKURAN** IS CHEATING AND YOU KNOW IT

I WIN!

OHhh I DON'T FEEL GOOD . . .
I HAVE A STUMMY ACHE

I'D SAY IT'S SURPRISING
YOU MANAGED THIS **BEFORE**
HALLOWEEN, BUT, WELL . . .

LOOK WHAT WE HAVE HERE

WAX LIPS. WAX BOTTLES.
WAX CANDY STICKS

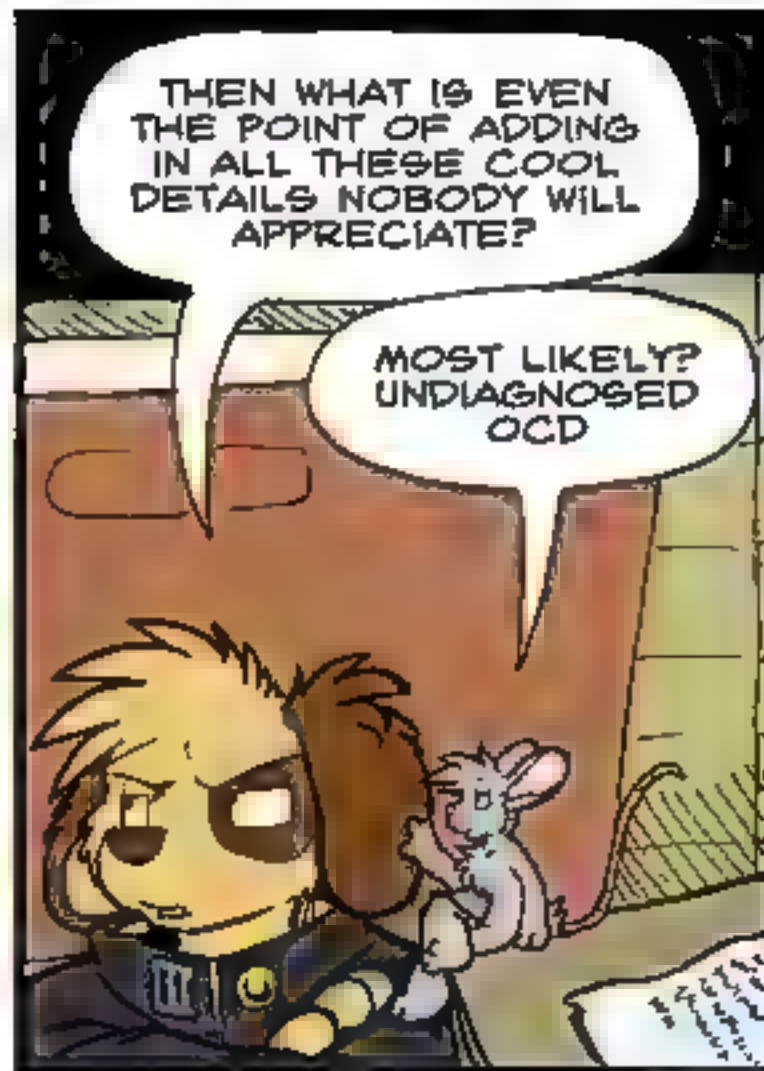
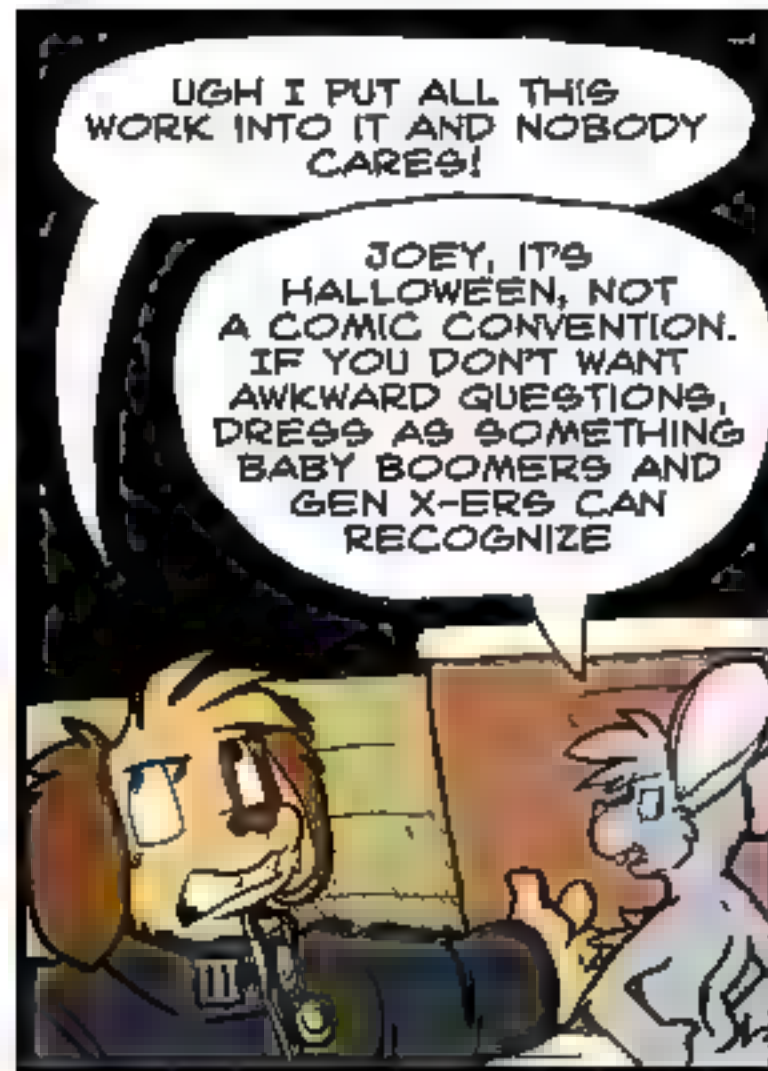
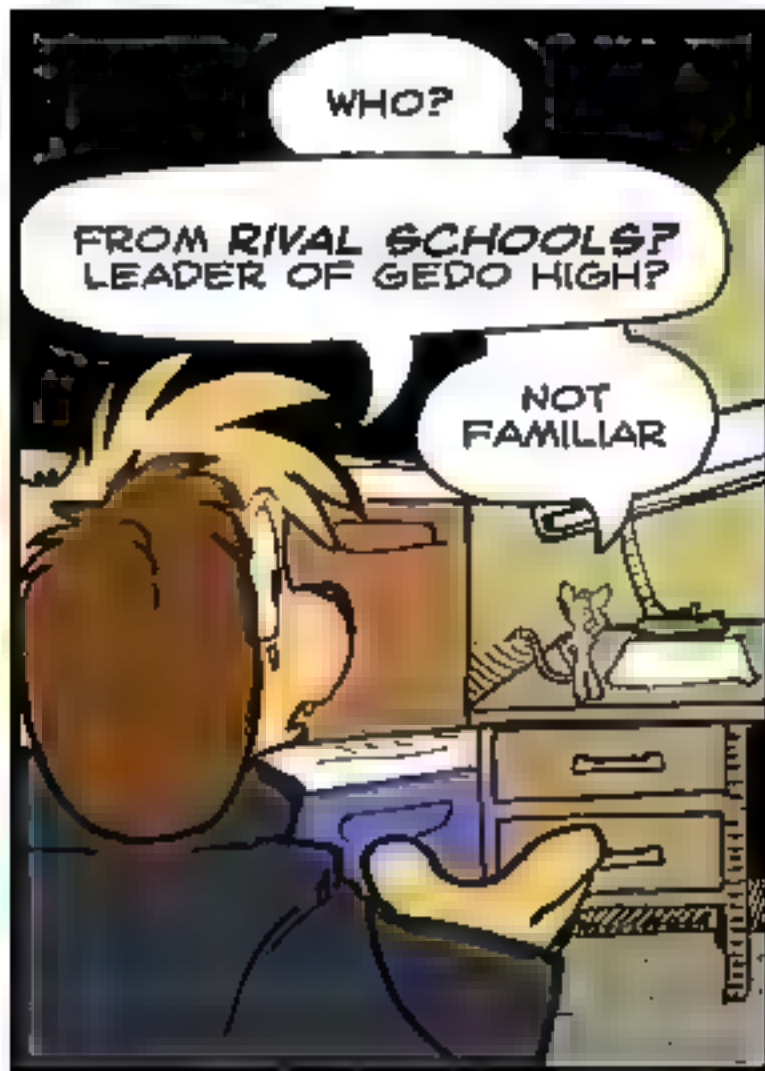
TIGER, YOU **DO** KNOW **EATING**
THE WAX IS LIKE EATING THE PAPER
THAT CANDY BUTTONS COME ON?

I DON'T
FOLLOW

THAT
WOULD EXPLAIN
THE LACK OF
WRAPPERS . . .



Rick Griffin



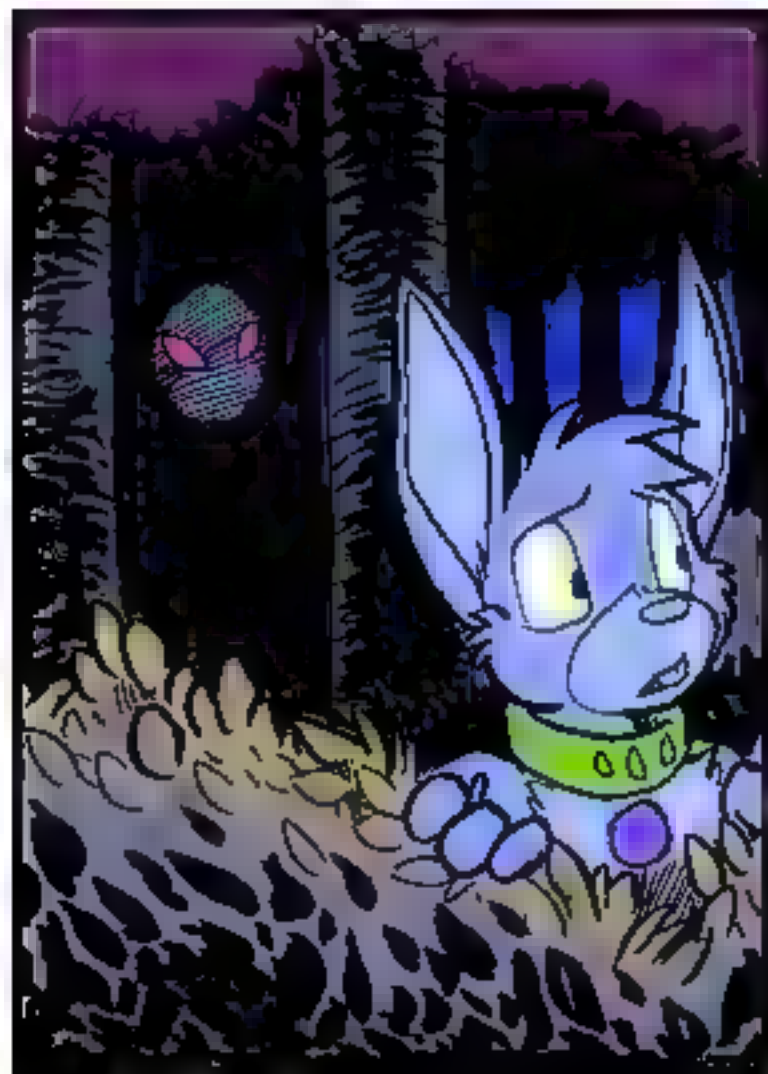
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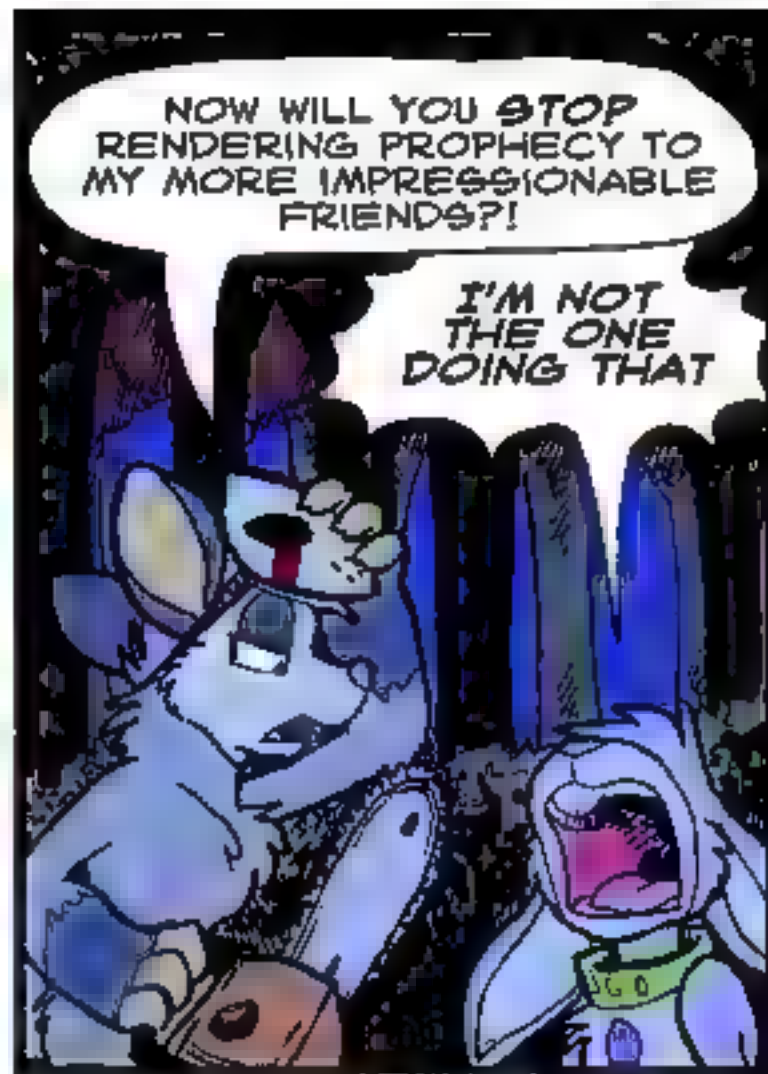
Rick Griffin







Rick Griffin





NO! STOP CALLING ME
ABOUT THE TEMPLE! I DON'T
CARE ABOUT THE TEMPLE!



Rabbit's Foot

Housepet

Rick Griffin

LOOK, THIS ISN'T MY DOING--
I ASK AROUND, YOUR MONIKER KEEPS
COMING UP

BETWEEN THAT AND
COOKIE MONSTER--

COOKIE MONSTER?!

--THE DEMIGOD'S CODENAME--
HE'S GONE AWOL AND THINGS HAVE
CHANGED AROUND HERE

I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO
SPELL JEHOVAH IN LATIN, I JUST
NEED YOU TO STAND IN A FEW PLACES
AND SEE HOW THINGS . . . "REACT"

I REALLY, REALLY DON'T--

THERE WILL BE
COMPENSATION



CAN'T BELIEVE I HAVE TO
GET ALL DRESSED UP
FOR THIS . . .



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UGH

SAY, WHAT'S A CUTE COTTONTAIL LIKE YOU DOING OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE AFTERNOON?

TAKING A SHORTCUT TO MILTON MANOR--BUT I FORGOT THE WOODS ARE DIFFERENT AFTER IT SNOWS, SO I'M KINDA LOST...

TELL YOU WHAT! YOU HELP ME, I'LL HELP YOU. THE NAME'S CILANTRO, OR "CORY" FOR SHORT

HOW IS THAT--

Y'SEE, I GOT A PROBLEM TOO

WINTER SPRUNG UP AND EVERYONE'S STOCKPILED THEIR FOOD... I HAD A STOCKPILE BUT FOOL THAT I AM, I TRADED IT FOR A GOLD RING...

IF I COULD GET IT APPRAISED AT A HUMAN SHOP I COULD GET MONEY TO BUY TEN TIMES THE FOOD I TRADED OFF! BUT I CAN'T BECAUSE I'M... I'M...

STINKY?

FERAL

LET'S NOT DEBASE OURSELVES WITH SLURS, SUGARBUN

SO I HAVE A PROPOSITION
WHAT PUTS THE "MUST" IN
"MUSTELID"

TAKE THE RING, SELL IT
FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, KEEP
AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE

IF YOU SEE FIT TO WASTE
A FEW PENNIES ON A POOR
HUMBLE SKUNK, I'LL BE
WAITING RIGHT HERE

WELL . . .

SNATCH

YOU
LOUSY MAGPIE!
THAT WAS MY
MEAL TICKET!

SHINY'S MINE NOW!
SHOULDN'T BEEN
A-WAVING IT LIKE A
BEETLE CARAPACE!

I'M SORRY YOU HAVE TO
SEE ME IN SUCH A
DEJECTED STATE

THIS? THIS IS
DIGNIFIED

TRY HAVING SOMEONE
THROW A CLOAK ON
YOU JUST SO THEY CAN
TOUCH ITS HEM

IF YOU NEED MONEY OR
FOOD, I COULD JUST GET
YOU SOME--

PERISH THE THOUGHT,
LITTLE CHARMER!

I WOULD NOT DARE
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
YOUR GENEROSITY

I KNOW THAT MAGPIE, AND
SHE'S EASILY DISTRACTED . . .

I COULD GET HER TO
DROP THE RING IF . . .

YOU
HAD SOMETHING
SHINY? WHAT ABOUT
MY TAG?

YES, YES!
GIVE IT HERE

I HATE THESE
STUPID SPLIT RINGS,
ALWAYS END UP
CRACKING MY NAILS
ON THEM . . .

THE WHOLE COLLAR, THEN;
DON'T HURT YOUR HAND

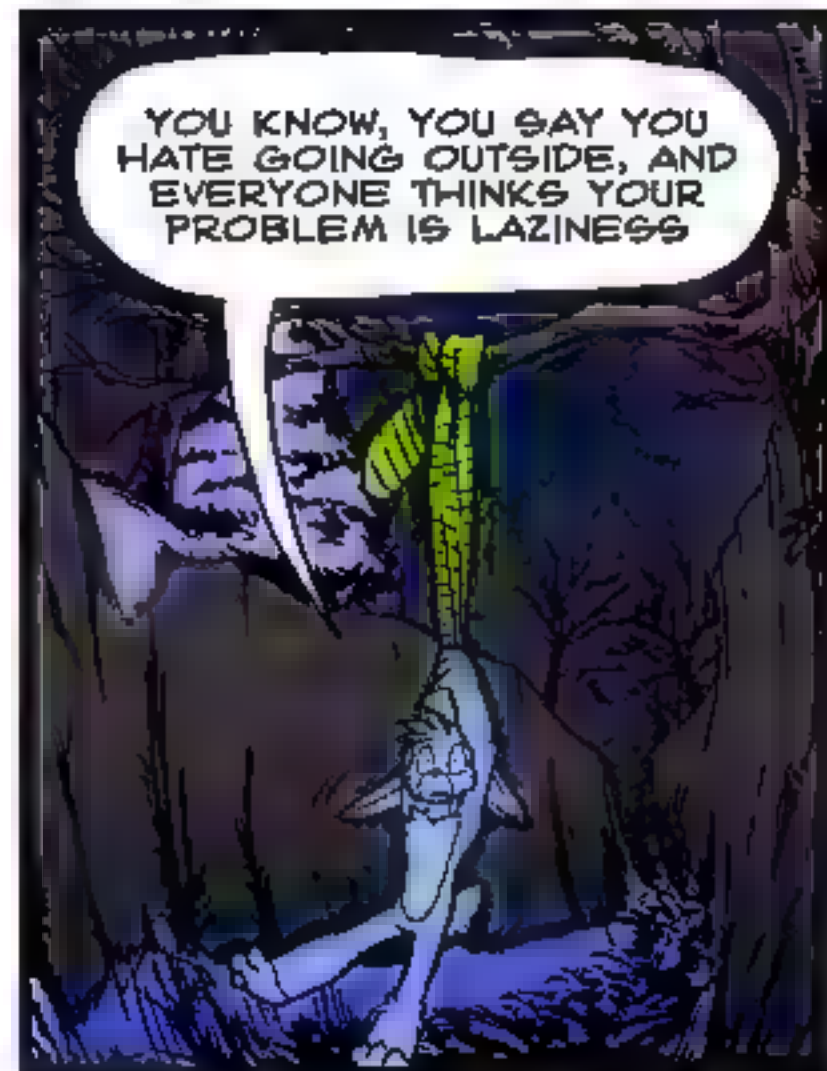
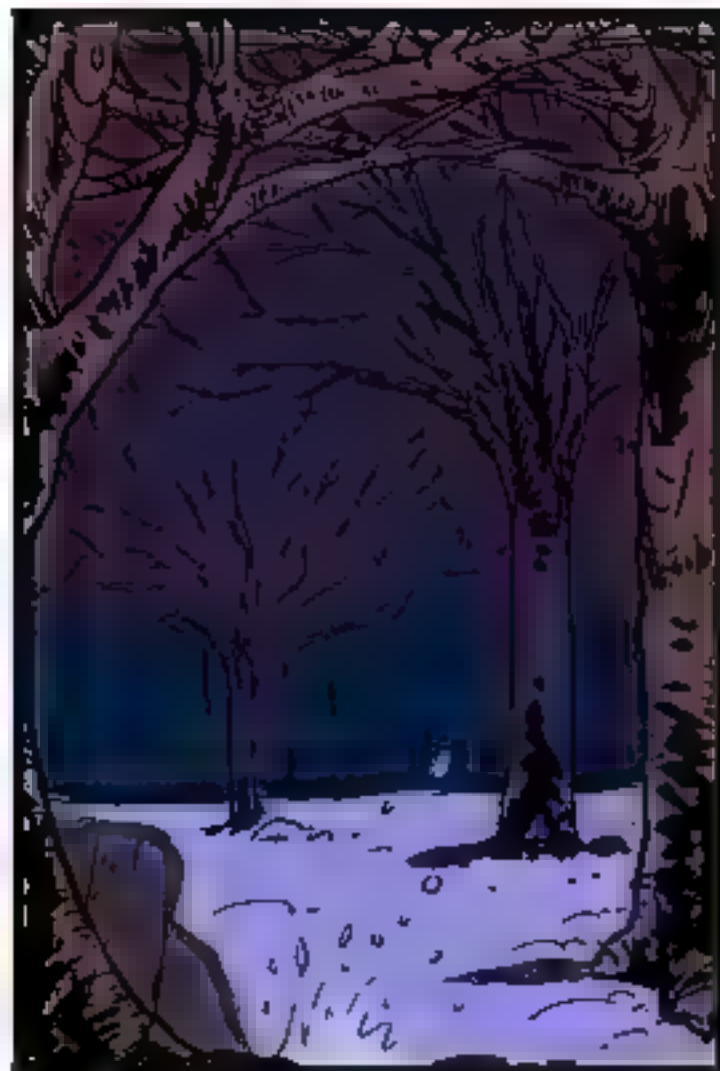
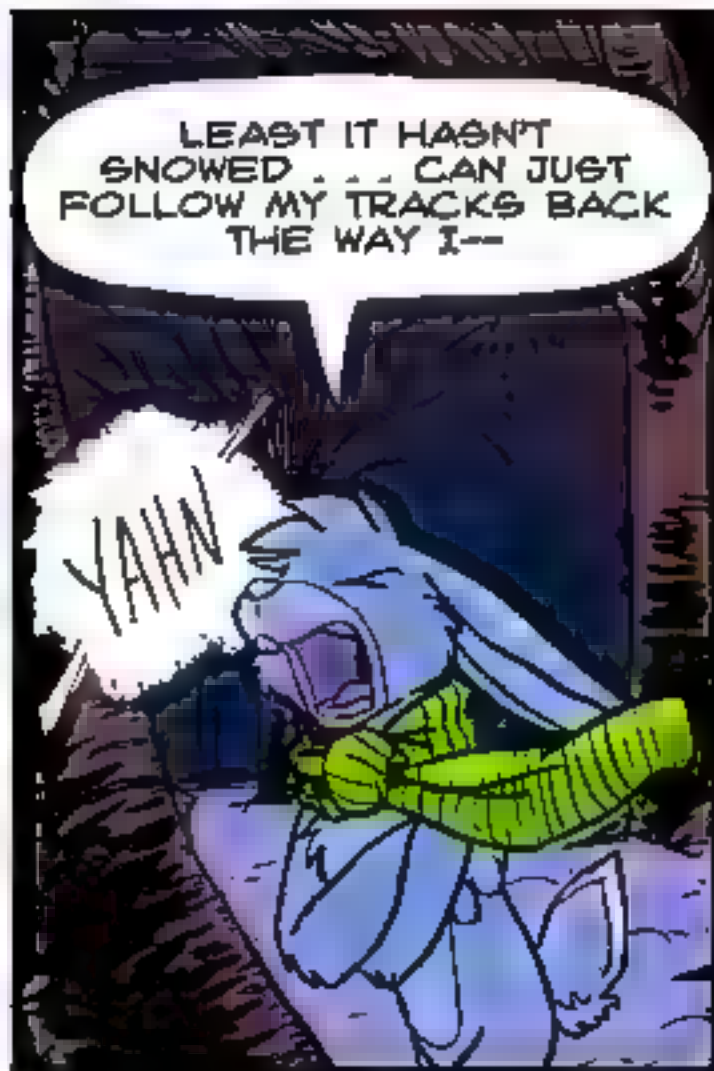
ER,
SHE'S FLYING
AWAY!

I KNOW WHERE SHE'S
HEADING! DON'T GO ANYWHERE,
ADORABUNNY! I'LL BE RIGHT
BACK WITH THAT RING!

DID THAT RABBIT LOOK
FAMILIAR TO YOU?

EH, MARKS ALL BLUR
TOGETHER AFTER A WHILE

BUT IF IT'S GOING TO
BOTHER YOU, JUST GO
TO CONFESSION





SOMEBODY HELP!

DOING A REAL GOOD
JOB ATTRACTING PREDATORS,
I SEE!



JESS?!

SMALL FOREST,
RIGHT? SURPRISED
I'M NOT ROAD
PIZZA?

HURRY! I'M NOT
USED TO PHYSICAL
EXERTION!



THAT'S THE UNDERSTATEMENT
OF THE CENTURY! OH—DON'T
LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT!
YES, I INTEND TO HELP...
SO START SWINGING, AND
I'LL CATCH YOU



AND WHEN I INEVITABLY
SLIP AND DIE?

DON'T BE SO PESSIMISTIC!
MOST LIKELY YOU'LL LINGER
A FEW HOURS FIRST

CATCH

THAT'S FUNNY
YOU'RE FUNNY

THIS IS FINE, WE CAN
WORK WITH THIS

RABBIT FEET
ARE LUCKY,
AFTER ALL

JUST LET GO OF
THE SCARF AND
I CAN PULL YOU IN!

AND DON'T
LOOK DOWN!

KINDA
HARD
AT THIS
POINT

POP

WAS THAT
THE BRANCH?!

THAT WAS YOUR
ANKLE . . . HEY,
WAKE UP YOU TWIT!
YER HEAVIER AS
DEAD WEIGHT!

SNAP

THAT WAS
THE BRANCH



CRUSH

MY EVERYTHING
HURTS

YOU'RE STILL
TALKING, SO
YOU'RE NOT
DEAD YET

BRP RPR

AT LEAST IT'S
OVER . . .

KEB-CHK!
REALLY?!

A RELOCATION TRAP
WE'RE PROBABLY TOO CLOSE
TO SOMEONE'S PRECIOUS LAWN

OWW

OH! I KNOW
HOW TO GET OUT
OF THESE!

US PET RABBITS ARE SOMETIMES
MISTAKEN FOR FERALS, SO MY OWNER
GAVE ME A KEY WHICH FITS THE LOCKS
ON THESE THINGS

GREAT!
WHERE IS IT?

... IN MY COLLAR





Rick Griffin



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GOT LOST, ZACH?
INTRODUCE ME TO YOUR
SWEETHEART SOMETIME

SHE'S
NOT--

IF IT ISN'T
MR. MONEYBAGS--
AREN'T YOU AFRAID
YOU'LL BREAK A NAIL
OUT HERE?

HARDLY

THE TRAP ALARM
WENT OFF AND I THOUGHT
WE MIGHT HAVE CAUGHT
A GARGOYLE

GARGOYLES?!

REALLY? *GARGOYLES?*
DO I HAVE TO BELIEVE
THOSE EXIST TOO?!

SNORE

NICE ONE, JEGG!
WHO'S THE DEAD
WEIGHT NOW?!

FLOMP!



Rick Griffin



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OW! DID THEY HAVE
TO MAKE THE SPLINT
GO TIGHT?

I'M
SORRY . . .

WHAT ARE YOU
SORRY FOR?

SORRY I DRAGGED YOU
INTO THIS DUMB MESS
THAT WAS ENTIRELY MY
FAULT AND MY STUPIDITY

DON'T BLAME YOURSELF!
SOMETIMES STUPID STUFF
HAPPENS. IT'S ALL LUCK,
ALWAYS HAS BEEN

ZACHI! IS THAT
RODENT GONE YET?!

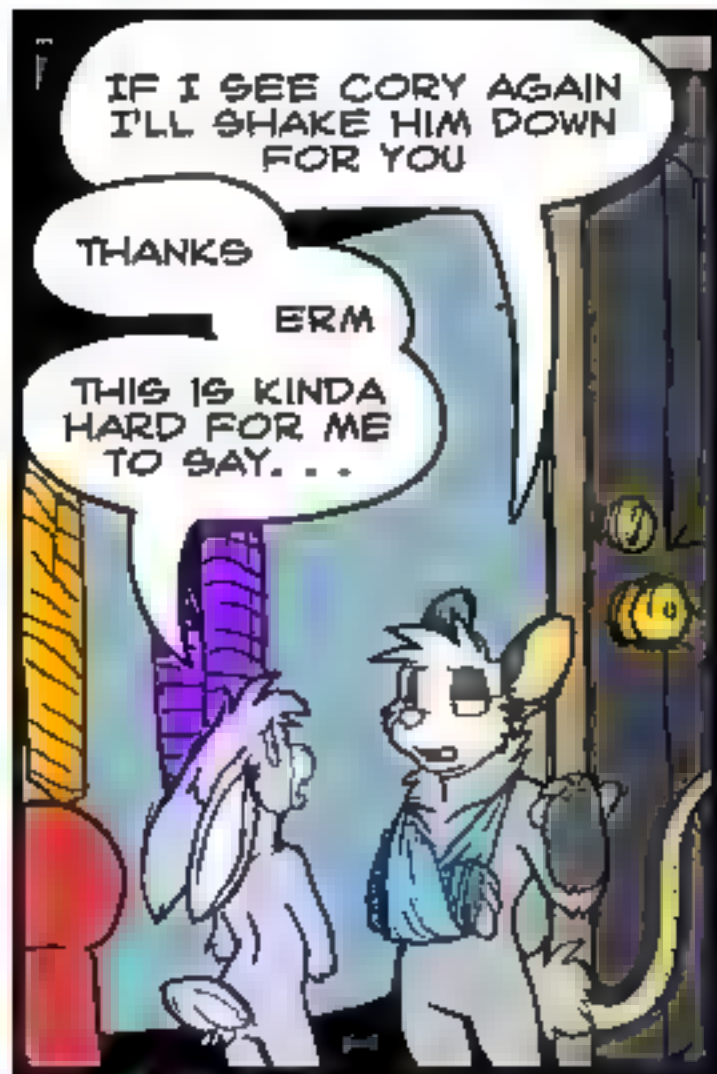
YOU! YOU'D BETTER NOT BE
HERE TO EAT ALL MY FOOD!

HEY, IT'S ARCHIBALD!
THOUGHT YOU WERE ASLEEP

I WAS, AND THAT
IS NOT MY NAME!

OH RIGHT, IT WAS
SOMETHING LIKE . . .
PUSSYCAT

REMEMBER, CONSERVE
ENERGY BY LETTING
YOUR ENEMY THROW
HIMSELF ON YOUR FIST



PLACES, PEOPLE!
WE GOTTA GET THIS
SHOW ON THE ROAD!

WHAT ARE OUR
PLACES?

PBS THEATER CO.
PRESENTS
AN AWESOME
CHRISTMAS
PAGEANT

WOW

Pageantate!

THEY'RE IN
YOUR SCRIPT

NOT MY
SCRIPT

DID YOU GET
REVISION 10A?

MINE DOESN'T
HAVE A REVISION
NUMBER ON IT

REALLY? THAT WAS WAY
BACK WHEN WE WERE DOING
"KING WENCESLAS"

MINE STILL SAYS
"MIRACLE ON
34TH STREET"

THEN WHY DO I
HAVE "HOW THE GRINCH
STOLE CHRISTMAS"?

I'VE PRACTICED MY CHARACTER
TOO HARD! I'M NOT JUST GOING
TO THROW IT OUT!

ME EITHER!

YOU DID THIS
ON PURPOSE, DIDN'T
YOU?

I LIKE TO
ENCOURAGE
CREATIVITY!

NOW CONVENES THE LAST
COUNCIL OF CHRISTMAS

THE SWORD
OF KRINGLE IS LOST, AND
THE SPIRIT OF SANTA IS
FADING

SOON THE WORLD WILL
PASS INTO UNJOLLINESS
AND WE WILL PASS WITH IT

I HAVE
A BETTER
PLAN!

WE CREATE A MAGIC
REALM IN WHICH CHRISTMAS
CAN SURVIVE--NOT AS IN
REALITY, BUT A REALM OF
THE MIND

WE'LL TELL KIDS SANTA'S
IN THEIR HEARTS OR SOME
NONSENSE

NEVER!

I WILL NOT BECOME
SOMEONE'S FIGMENT!
CHRISTMAS DOESN'T
NEED TO BOW TO THESE
UNJOLLY MORTALS!

YOU WILL SEE--I WILL
FIND THE SWORD OF
KRINGLE AND RULE
THIS WORLD UNDER THE
IRON FIST OF
CHRISTMAS!

YEAH
TUNZAT

SNEAK

WHY DO WE KEEP
INVITING HIM TO THESE?

IN EVERYTHING, THERE
MUST BE BALANCE,
BECAUSE OTHERWISE
WE WOULDN'T HAVE AN
EVIL GUY TO SCREW
THINGS UP

WHY DON'T I GET
ANY LINES?

OH WHAT'S THE USE?
A LONG SERIES OF TERRIBLE
SITUATIONS HAS LEFT MY
NONPROFIT CHARITY LOAN
ORGANIZATION IN THE HOLE!
EVERYTHING'S FALLING APART,
I MIGHT AS WELL END IT!

MEANWHILE...

GEORGE BAILEY!

I AM YOUR
GUARDIAN ANGEL!
DO NOT DO THE
THING!

WHAT?
I DON'T
BELIEVE YOU
I'M GONNA DO
THE THING

GEORGE, LISTEN TO ME--
THINGS MAY BE BAD NOW,
BUT WE ALL HAVE A DESTINY
IN STORE

DON'T THROW
YOURS AWAY

WHY NOT?

BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN
CHOSEN TO SEEK OUT
THE **SWORD OF KRINGLE**,
AND DEFEAT THE ARMY OF
CHRISTMAS DEMONS!

AWRIGHT!!

THE JOURNEY IS AN
ARDUOUS ONE, O GEORGE

THE GRINCH HAS
CURSED THE LAND WITH
A HIBERNATION OF FROST

YOU MUST SEEK OUT THE
CHRISTMAS POWERS TO HELP
YOU, FOR THIS IS NOT A
JOURNEY YOU CAN MAKE
LIGHTLY



WELL IF YOU SUMMONED
ME HERE, YOU MUST BE
PRETTY POWERFUL, ARE YOU
GONNA HELP ME?

MY STRENGTH WANES,
AND THE CHRISTMAS
SPIRITS ARE FADING
FROM THIS WORLD—
BUT WE HAVE GIVEN
YOU THESE GIFTS



KING WENCESLAS THE
MIGHTY AND GOOD-HEARTED,
RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED,
AND MY ADOPTED DAUGHTER,
CINDY LOU

REALLY?



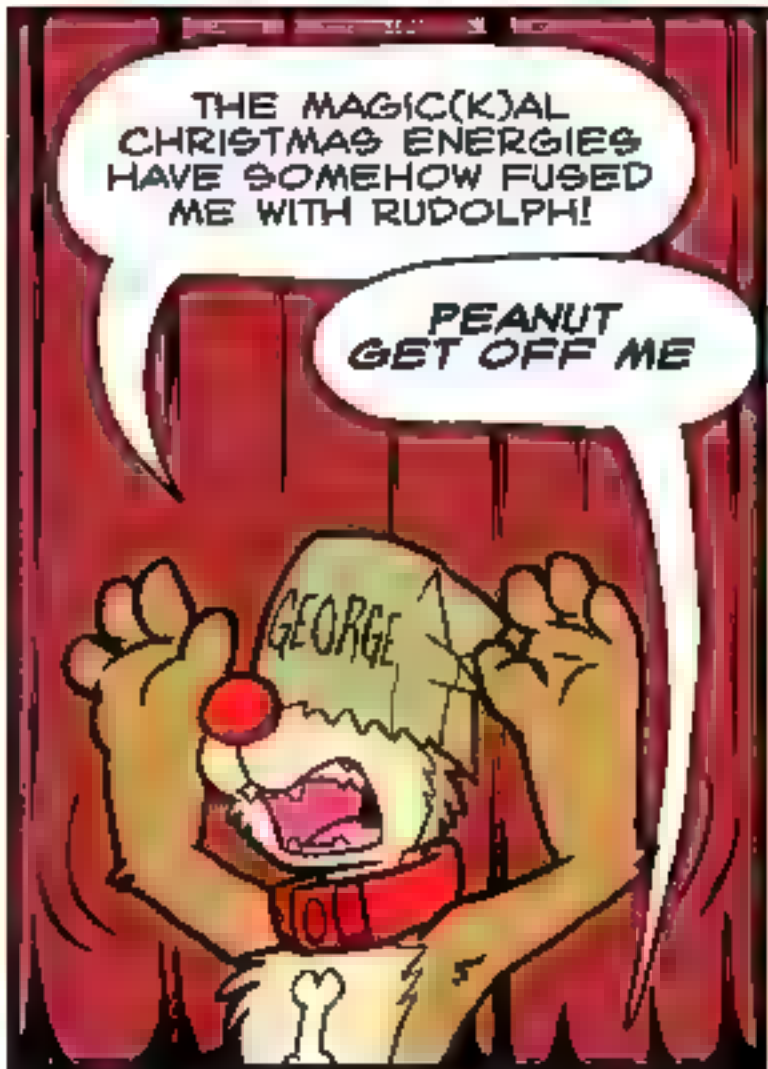
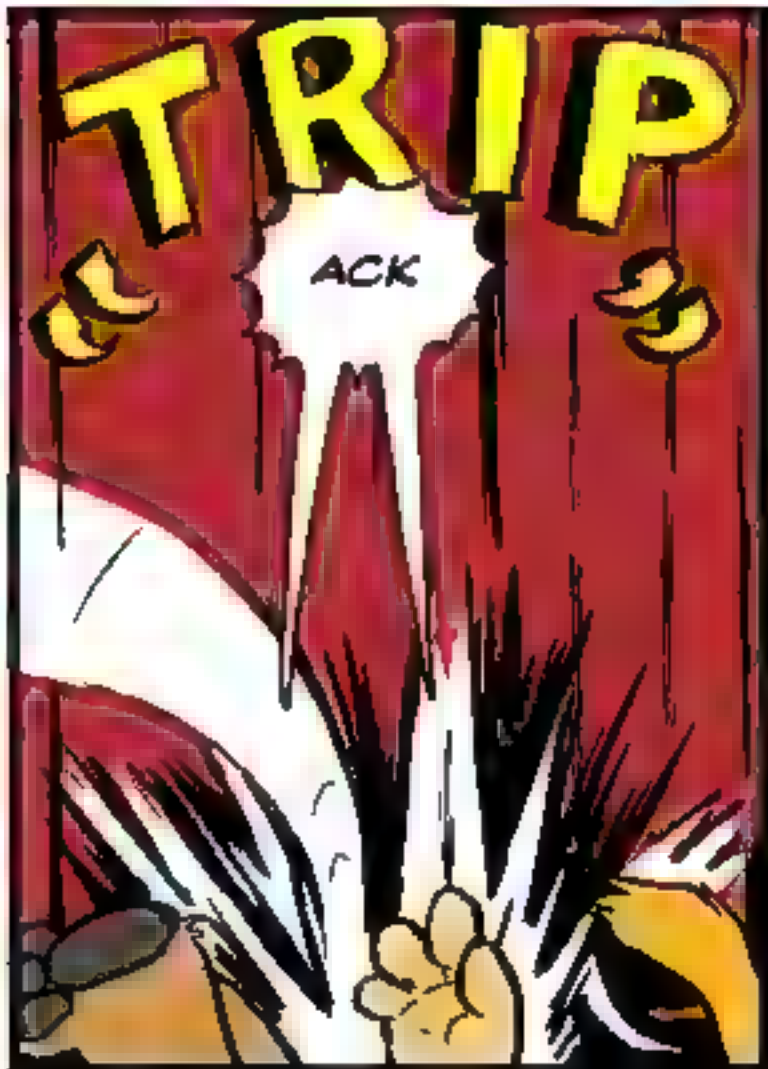
NO BUT SERIOUSLY,
YOU'RE CLEARLY A
WIZARD, YOU MUST HAVE
MAKE-GO-EXPLODE
POWERS OF SOME KIND

JUST TAKE
THE BAG OF
MAGIC(K) JUNK
AND GET OUT!





Rick Griffin



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BEING A MAGIC(K)AL
FLYING REINDEER IS QUITE
THE NEW EXPERIENCE

YOU DON'T EVEN
KNOW THE FIRST THING
ABOUT FLYING, HUMAN!

WOULD YOU TEACH ME?
I AM BUT A MAN WHO WAS
RAISED ON RATIONAL
CHRISTMASING—I MEAN,
TO ME, RUDOLPH WAS
LITERALLY INVENTED
SEVEN YEARS AGO

UGH! FINE,
YA WEIRDO

THE FIRST THING YOU DO
IS INFLATE YOUR **FLIGHT
BLADDER** BY SQUEEZING
THE **GLORP**, WHICH IS RIGHT
HERE BY YOUR **PANCREAS**—
YOU'LL HEAR A MUFFLED
SQUIRTING SOUND

THIS WILL GET YOU IN THE
AIR, BUT YOU MUST PROPEL
YOURSELF WITH THE
SEBATIOUS GLAND,
LOCATED BACK HERE, BY
FIRST CONSUMING DELICIOUS
PEAT MOSS

YES,
I'M JOKING, YOU
GULLIBLE TWERP,
IT'S JUST MAGIC!

OH GOOD!
THAT MAKES LOTS
MORE SENSE

WE COULD USE MY
NEW POWER OF REINDEER
FLIGHT TO GET TO OUR
DESTINATION IMMEDIATELY,
OOOR LET'S SAY IT'S TOO
COLD AND I'M NOW
FREEZING TO DEATH

WELP, FUN
ADVENTURE
GUYS

HAVE
COURAGE,
FRIEND! WE
WILL REACH
CINDY LOU
YET!

LOOK! WHERE THE
SNOW LAY DINTED,
HEAT IS IN THE
VERY SOO WHICH
THE SAINT HAS
PRINTED!

COME,
GEORGE-
RUDOLPH!

HI! I'M JOHN, THIS IS SUSAN.
WELCOME TO 34TH STREET, THE
PARADE IS CANCELED BECAUSE
CHRISTMAS IS CANCELED BECAUSE
YOU CAN APPARENTLY DO THAT

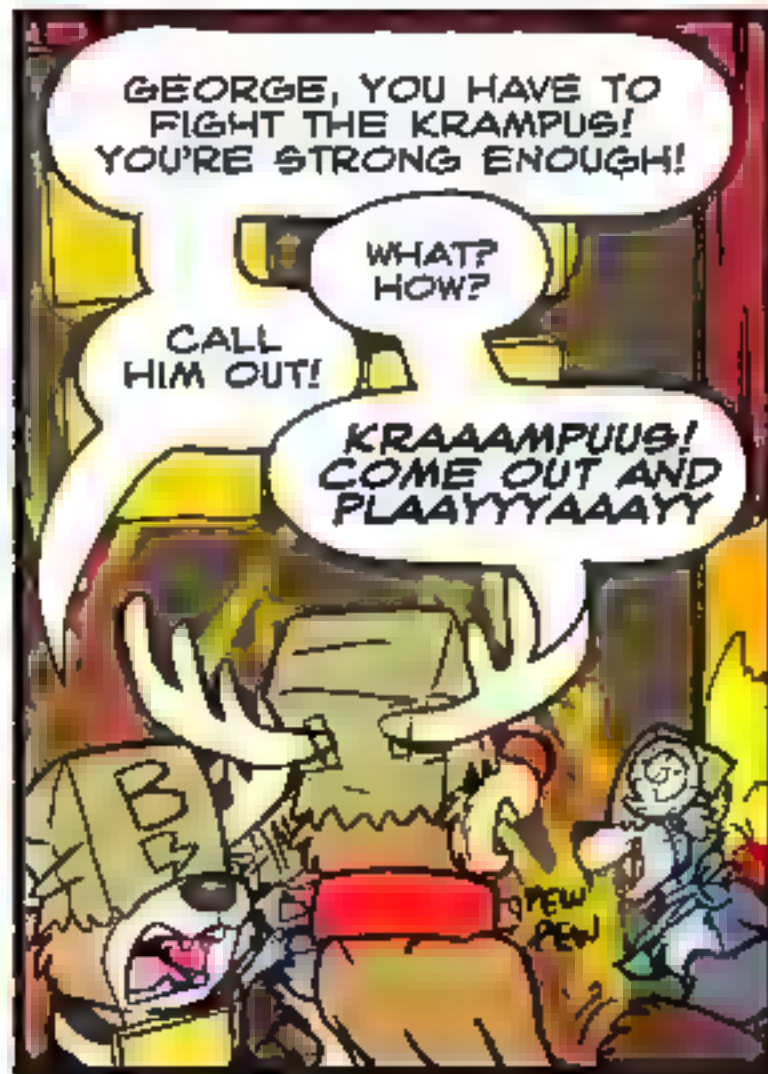
I DON'T REMEMBER
NEW YORK BEING AT
THE BASE OF A CURVY
MOUNTAIN

WELL THIS IS MORE OF A
PASTICHE OF NEW YORK
THAN ANYTHING

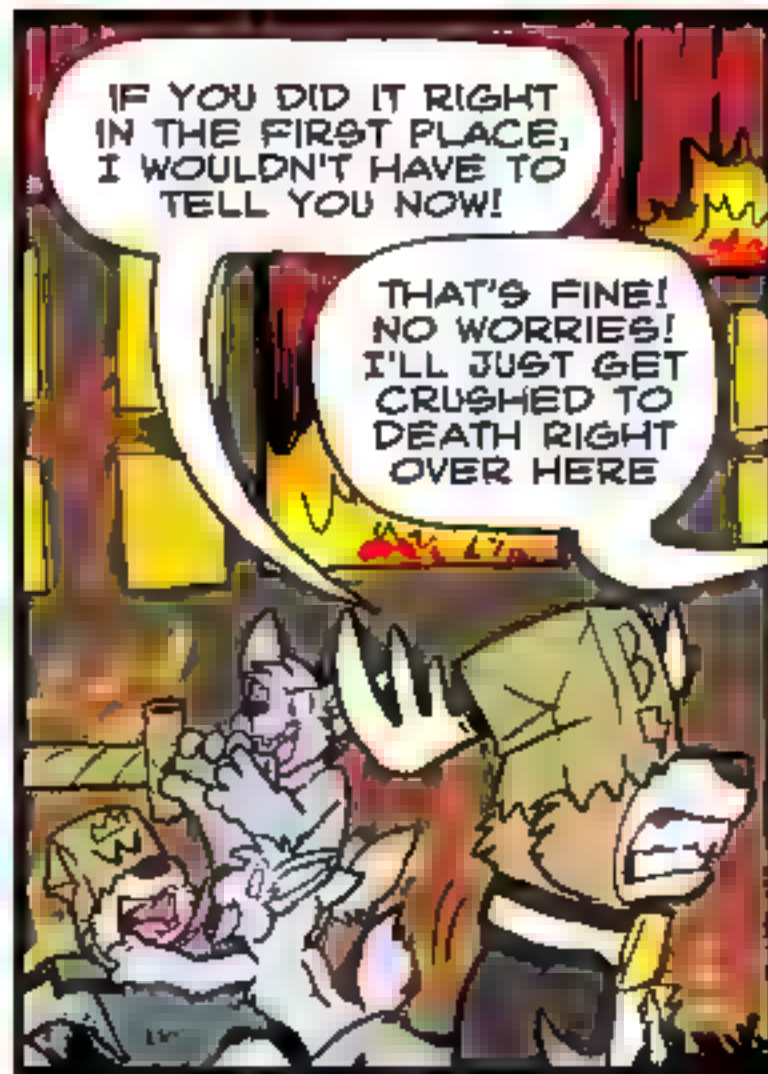
I COULD GET INTO A MORE
DETAILED EXPLANATION IF
YOU--

EXPLAINING
IS BORING!
TIME FOR
DEMON
ATTACK!

HAHA! THE
KRAMPUS!



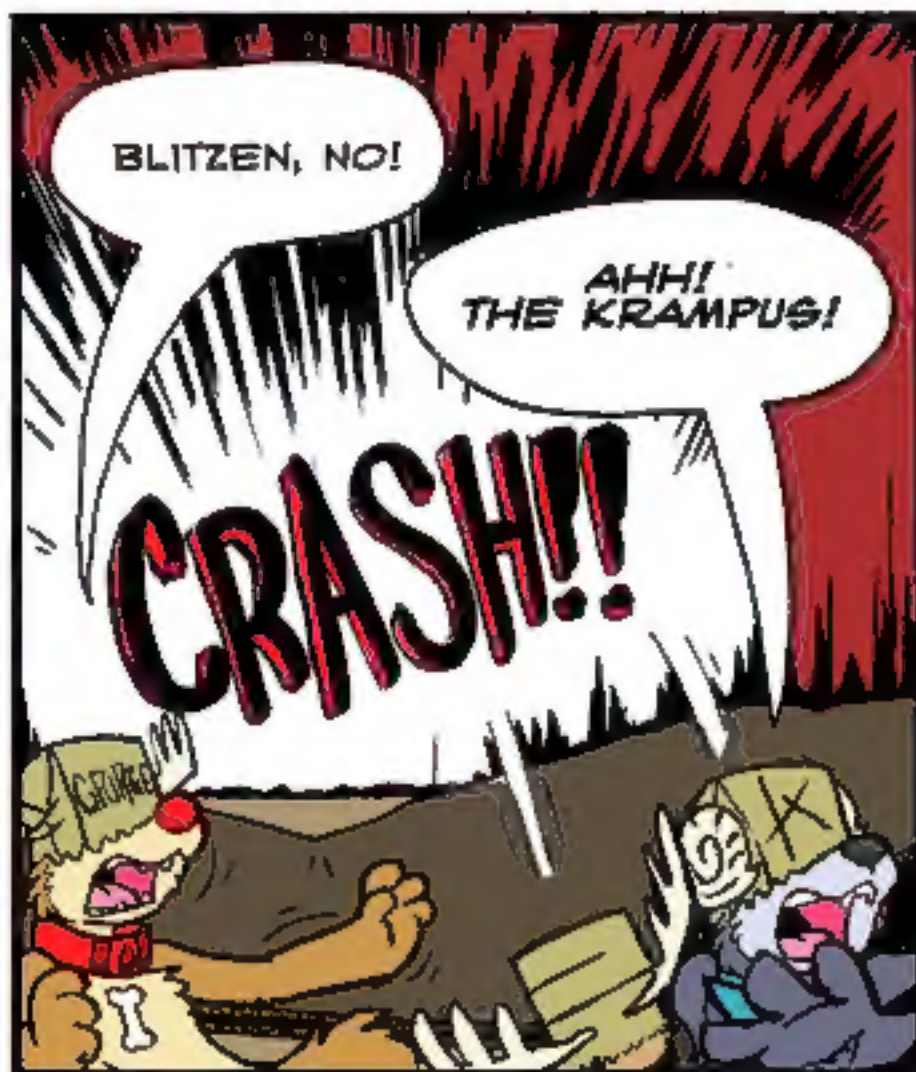
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UGH, FINE!
I'LL DO IT!



BLITZEN, NO!

AHH!
THE KRAMPUS!

CRASH!!



GEORGE, MY
TIME IS UP!

NO BLITZEN!
DON'T DIE ON ME!
YOU HAVE SO MUCH
MORE TO CRITICIZE
ME OVER!

IT'S TOO
LATE!



BEWARE
THE FALSE REINDEER
IS COMING!

LOOM



LOOKS LIKE
I'LL BE DESTROYING
THIS CITY

THE GRINCH WILL
GET THE SWORD,
OR SOMETHING

WHATEVER



QUICK! ONLY YOU
CAN SAVE US!

WHAT CAN I DO?
I'M JUST AN ORDINARY
GIRL WHO STILL BELIEVES
IN SANTA AND CHRISTMAS

EXACTLY!
REACH INTO THE
BAG OF MAGIC(K)
JUNK!



"LEST WE FORGET THIS HOLIDAY SEASON,
THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS IS NOT WHAT'S IN
OUR WALLETS. IT'S EXPERIENCING THE JOY OF
FAMILY, TOGETHERNESS, AND UNWANTED KISSES
FROM OLD RELATIVES. IT'S IN ITCHY SWEATERS,
KINKADE PAINTINGS AND KNOCK-OFF PRECIOUS
MOMENTS FIGURINES. TRULY THESE THINGS
EMBODY THE PEACE AND GOODWILL BETWEEN ALL
PEOPLE EVERYWHERE, BY COVERING UP THE
UNSIGHTLY WITH A VENEER OF STERILE, CHASTE
BEHAVIOR, AND PRETENDING THAT MAYBE THIS
YEAR OUR FAMILY WON'T BRING UP TERRIBLE
POLITICAL OPINIONS AROUND THE DINNER TABLE.

BECAUSE IN THE END, ISN'T THAT WHAT
CHRISTMAS TRULY IS ALL ABOUT?"



Zzzz... Zzzz...

FOOLS! YOU HAVE ACCOMPLISHED NOTHING, BUT THAT I AM NOW FREE TO FIND THE SWORD OF KRINGLE UNOPPOSED!

NO, GRINCH, IT'S NOT OVER YET!

WHAT! BUT HOW?

BECAUSE THIS IS ALL MAKE-BELIEVE! WHY HAVENT YOU FOUND THE SWORD OF KRINGLE? BECAUSE IT IS NOT A PHYSICAL THING!

ALL OF THIS IS AN ELABORATE METAPHOR FOR WHAT EXISTS IN OUR HEARTS!

YOU MEAN . . . CHRISTMAS HAS BEEN INSIDE ME ALL ALONG?

THAT'S RIGHT!

AND THAT MEANS THE SWORD OF KRINGLE IS ALSO INSIDE YOU!

ACK!

CH-CH-CHEE
HA-CHAAAA!!!

BEHOLD MY HERO

I, GEORGE BAILEY, HAVE SLAIN THE GRINCH!

HE IS WORTHY!

ALL HAIL GEORGE BAILEY, WHO SITS ON THE THRONE OF SANTA!

CLAP CLAP WOOO!
CLAP CLAP

HAVE A VERY WEIRD CHRISTMAS!

Rick Griffin



CHEER UP, MATE,
IT COULD HAVE
BEEN WORSE

DOESN'T MAKE BEING
SHIPPED AROUND LIKE
A LOST PARCEL FEEL
MUCH BETTER



MISSED THE
CHRISTMAS
PARTY
IT'S GOING
TO BE ONE
LONG WINTER
NOW

DON'T CRY,
I'M SURE
WE COULD
SCROUNGE
SOMETHING
UP TO
MAKE IT—



YOU'RE LISTENING TO **WPIT**
COUNTDOWN TO A ROCKIN'
NEW YEAR! WE'LL BE RIGHT
BACK WITH OUR SET OF
OVERPLAYED PARTY SONGS,
BUT FIRST WE'RE HERE IN MY
HOME NEIGHBORHOOD
ASKING PETS WHAT THEY'D
LIKE TO SEE IN THE
ROCKING NEW YEAR!

I WANT TO GO ON ANOTHER
ROMANTIC ADVENTURE WITH
MY GIRLFRIEND!

ERM, IS THIS YOUR
GIRLFRIEND HERE?

NO BUT I PROMISED
HER SHE COULD COME
WITH US AND IT'D STILL
BE ROMANTIC

A LITTLE LESS EXCITEMENT
WOULD BE NICE, THOUGH
GIVEN WHAT'S HAPPENED
THIS YEAR, THAT'S ALMOST
CERTAIN

SLRP

I DON'T ASK FOR MUCH,
MERELY TOTAL DOMINATION
OVER THE HEARTS AND
MINDS OF THE DOGS OF
THIS CITY

I TOTALLY AGREE,
DUCHIE-POO!

I'M STILL WORKING
ON THIS ONE

CAN WE **NOT**
USE THIS TAKE?